THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 21ST APRIL.

IT has been definitely settled to hold the next National Congress in Calcutta.

THE Blue-book, containing the opinions of the Local Governments on the reform of the Legislative Councils, is timed to reach this country by next mail.

A SUGGESTION has been made that a law should be made requiring every sea-going vessel to carry a life-belt or buoy for every passenger on board.

Indian Engineering says:—"Sir Steuart Bayley does not move to Darjiling till next month; his Secretaries are obliged, by the force of his will and example, to spend a certain portion of the hottest months in the plains. It is only by such action that the authorities can realize the trials of the hot season, and those who have to toil in the plains are, by the example set them, induced to do their work more cheerfully under trying circumstances." We only wish that the example set by Sir Steuart Bayley would be followed by other provincial Governors.

THE *Morning Post* says:—"The deputation from the National Congress are not allowing the grass to grow beneath their feet. They are up and doing, and if Anglo-Indians lull themselves into the belief that nothing much will result from all this ferment, they are destined to be greatly mistaken." We anxiously wait to see what the results will be. Let us hope for the best.

THE *Rangoon Times* says that the Siam Boundary Commission finished their work across the Salween at the end of March. All disputed territory had been surveyed, but no settlement arranged, as the Siamese refused to meet the Commissioners or come to any joint settlement. Throughout the Siamese apparently behaved obstructively, not only sending their survey parties into disputed regions, but attempting interference in the internal affairs of the States, ruled by Chiefs subordinate to the British.

THERE has been a great deal of wild talk about the Ruby Mines of Upper Burmah. It is now stated that ruby mines exist in Burmah outside of the area, which has acquired so much interest; and that persistent rumours of long standing point to several mines in the Shan States, where the inhabitants are deterred by superstition from gathering the precious stones. In one case in particular, a valuable mine is believed to be jealously guarded by supernatural beings, and a story is related of these spirits overtaking a party of ruby thieves and recovering their booty.

A SMALL depot for the cultivation and supply of lymph for vaccination for the Punjab is to be established in the Hazara Hills, pending the establishment of an Imperial vaccination depot in some convenient place for the supply of lymph to all India.

THE Bengal Police have issued a warning to passengers by the Eastern Bengal Railway against taking anything to eat or drink from unknown fellow-travellers. It appears that there are men travelling about with the intention of robbing passengers, whom they drug or poison by means of sweetmeats or drink, and then relieve them of whatever they can get hold of.

A SEVERE tornado formed in the Brahmapootra river near the sub divisional bungalow at Jamalpore last week, causing loss of lives, damage to property, and destruction of houses, both in the town and in the villages. Several persons have been injured, and a number of families have become destitute.

WITH reference to the Bombay Government's declaration that leprosy is a dangerous disease, and that it is incumbent on the Corporation to provide proper accommodation for persons suffering from such diseases, the Municipality has asked Government to define clearly the rights and liabilities of the Corporation with regard to the new Leper institution. 'Dangerous' is a vague term. Has the Bombay Government satisfied itself that leprosy is both 'contagious' and 'infectious'? We trow not.

TUESDAY, 22ND APRIL.

MR. FITZGERALD, Assistant Political Agent, Halar, has come to Rajkote and sealed the records, the treasury &c., of the late Thakore Saheb. One of the duties which Mr. Fitzgerald has to perform is to submit a report, wirh an inventory of the articles he has taken possession of, to the Political Agent. The State will, as the matters stand, be placed, under British management.

THE Lahore paper learns that the North-Western Railway has notified that in future parcels from India to the United Kingdom will be charged at the rate of four annas per lb. or Rs. 2-8-8 per cubic foot; and those despatched from the United Kingdom to the stations given in paragraph 66 of the North-Western Railway coaching traffic rules will be six annas per lb.; or five shillings per cubic foot.

THE American papers are talking about the largest tent in the world, to be raised at the Universal Exhibition in the States. From the centre pole, which is to be 1,500 feet in height, and so outdo the Eiffel Tower by 50 per cent., steel guy cables are to be brought down radially to anchorages in the ground so as to enclose a circle 3,000 feet in diameter. This wigwam 1,100 feet high and 3,000 feet in diameter, would cover twice as much ground as the Paris Exhibition, and thus the two features of size and originality would be secured.

THE rumour is abroad, says a Bombay contemporary, "that Sir David Barbour has been marked down as Sir Steuart Bayley's successor in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. It is not mentioned when Sir Steuart is likely to go into retirement; but as he must be perilously within reach of the 55 year rule, the close of his official career in India cannot be far off. The gossips have settled that, when he goes and his place is taken by Sir David Barbour, the Portfolio of Finance is to come into the hands of the Hon'ble H. E. Stokes, senior member of the Madras Council. Mr. Stokes is said to be a financier of undoubted ability. His name will ever be remembered in Madras as the official who systematised the various branches of accounts, and notably those of the Municipalities and Local Fund Boards. If the latter are able to record annually a progressive balance sheet, and avoid mistakes in the apportionment of funds to the various items of local expenditure, they owe it to the rules framed by him." Are the gossips quite sure that the 55 years rule applies to Lieutenant Governors? Well, we may tell them that Sir Steuart was appointed Lieutenant Governor on April 2, 1887; and so for two years yet their speculation about Sir Steuart Bayley's successor can have no public interest.

A DESPERATE attempt was recently made on the life of Shamrao N. Laud, the Dewan of Cambay. The Dewan, whose name will be recollected in connection with the 'Cambay scandal,' was lying in bed when some person attacked him with a knife. 'Fortunately the Dewan was wearing thick clothing, which saved him. He has sustained a nasty wound on the left shoulder, and also on the nose. His assailant, being interrupted in the attack, rushed out of the room pursued by the Dewan, but managed to effect his escape. A curious circumstance is that the house is generally guarded by eight armed sepoys, but that on that night three failed to put in an appearance at the proper hour. One of the other five who were on duty, when questioned, said that he saw a man climb down the side of the house from the Dewan's room, and make off. Information was immediately given to the police, who arrested two Mahomedans, while a third man, a bania, is suspected of being accessory to the act, and the police are looking for him. They made a full confession, the disclosures revealing the existence of a plot of wide ramifications and complexity. The guards are alleged to have comfirmed the statement of the prisoners. The Dewan, in the meantime is under medical treatment in Bombay, and is progressing satisfactorily, his wounds being slight."

A PARIS paper says that much uneasiness is felt regarding a nervous malady from which the German Emperor is suffering. The doctors advise sea-voyage.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD APRIL.

THE scene at the railway station when Prince Bismarck was leaving Berlin was one never to be forgotten. Hundreds of people took tickets to the next station in order to be present on the platform. A squadron of Cuirassiers formed the guard of honour, a compliment only accorded to Sovereigns. The crowd sang the "Watch on the Rhine," and broke through the *cordon* of police, and the soldiers seized the Prince's hand shouting "Come back again."

AT a meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce, Sir John Lubbock warned Englishmen not to feel too confident of retaining their present commercial supremacy, though the tonnage of British shipping continues to increase, and more than half the ships afloat carry the British flag. A large decrease has taken place during the last six months in the merchandise carried owing to the strikes.

IN a Parliamentary paper Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, Sir James Peile, Sir Peter Lumsden, Sir Donald Stewart, and Lord Cross dissent from the order raising the age for the Civil Service competition. They all say it will unduly increase the chances of the Native competitors. They are wise in their generation. The word 'unduly' ought to be defined.

A Berlin paper gives the following interesting account of the personal qualities of Prince Bismarck:—"AT the time when Prince Bismarck's three children a daughter and two sons were young, they had to appear every Saturday before him, to give an account of their proceedings during the past week. Of the three children, Countess Marie is the eldest. As are the relations of the Prince with his wife and children, so are those with his sister and brother, very affectionate. It is especially in his letters to his sister Malvine that he appears a most affectionate and amiable brother. As a friend he is likewise true and faithful. With all this, he combines a deep love of nature, which is often expressed in his letters in so poetical a form that they leave the impression of little lyrical poems. In a few strokes he paints exquisite pictures. Prince Bismarck is a great horseman, and in war time he has remained on horseback for days together. But he is not always fortunate in his equestrian performances, as, according to his own words, he has been thrown off about 50 times, and sometimes got dangerously injured. The facility with which Prince Bismarck acquires foreign idioms is exceptional among Germans, who, though they learn without difficulty foreign languages well enough to read a paper or book, rarely acquire the correct accent. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule, and Bismarck's is one of the most striking ones. As he talks German without dialect, he has acquired French to a degree that even the higher circles of society at Geneva or St. Petersburg, would hardly find fault with. Besides this, he knows sufficient English to come up to rather high expectations, and understands enough Italian to have no difficulties with the newspapers of that country. With Polish he is likewise acquainted, and Russian became sufficiently familiar during his three and-a-half years' stay on the Neva to enable him to converse in that language. It is said that the late Emperor was greatly impressed when Bismarck, for the first time, answered him in Russian."

AN automatic machine for taking photographs has been invented. The machine consists of a case about 7 ft. in height and 2 ft. square. On the front of it, at a convenient height, is a small mirror, and under the mirror is the photographic lens. The person who desires to have his portrait taken stands in front of the machine in such a position that he can see his full face reflected in the mirror. He then puts a penny in the slot and remains motionless for five seconds, when the ringing of a bell informs him that the impression is complete. An interval of forty seconds now ensues, during which time the various processes necessary for finishing the portrait are automatically performed inside the case. When the work is complete the portrait, in a metal plate drops through the delivery port on to a small shelf. By dropping a half-penny into a second slot a brass frame for the portrait may be obtained. It is understood that a company will be formed to work the invention.

THURSDAY, 24TH APRIL.

A TELEGRAM to the *Pioneer* gives the following telegraphic details of the discussion on bimetallism in the House of Commons. Mr. Goschen said he never doubted that the currency of the world ought to depend on the two metals, but it was necessary to consider what was practicable. Mr. Balfour said that bimetallism was supported by a majority of of the world's experts. A currency composed of the two metals was less liable to violent fluctuations than a single currency. It was absurd to suppose it to be impossible to fix a legal ratio between gold and silver, and he considered that an international arrangement was desirable. Sir Lyon Playfair argued that England as the chief creditor nation of the world ought not to negotiate on equal terms with other nations. Sir William Harcourt was surprised that Mr. W. H. Smith's views were not regarded as the views of the Government. He denied that bimetallism would establlish stability in the currency, Mr. Balfour, Sir Richard Webster, Sir Edward Clark, Professor Stokes, Sir William Houldsworth, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Waddy, Sir Henry James Viscount Lymington, Mr. Jesse Collings, and Mr T. Sutherland supported the motion. Sir W. Harcourt, Mr. Childers, Mr. M. Champbell Bannerman, Mr. Mundella, Sir George Trevelyan, Sir Henry Fowler, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Sir Charles Russell, Sir Lyon Playfair, Mr. W. H. Smith, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Stanhope, Lord George Hamilton, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Baron H. de Worms, Sir W. Hart Dyke, Mr. Leonard Courtney, Sir John Lubbock, and Mr. W. S. Caine voted against the motion.

EXAMINATION of the cranial capacity, from which a fairly accurate approximation of the size of the brain may be drawn, has shown that in civilised Europe the size of brain is considerably higher than in savage races, not only as an average but in individual cases, and that the variations in the European nations are much greater than in the savage races. A series of observations on the size of head of students at Cambridge University recently published are of great interest and show that the size of head of those who obtain high honours is considerably larger than that of the ordinary students at the same age, while the remainder of the honours men occupy an intermediate position as regards the size of the head. M. Le Bon, in a very valuable paper, has been able by means of examinations of the registers of a hatter to ascertain the size of the head for hats of a large number of persons in various social positions in France. These he divided into five classes, and found that the relative position occupied by each class with respect to size of head was as follows, beginning with the largest :—1, men of science and letters ; 2, merchants ; 3 nobles of ancient family ; 4, domestic servants ; 5, peasants What do these observations show ? It is very doubtful whether there is any direct relation between the size of head and brain on the one hand and intellectual ability on the other.

THE London correspondent of the New York *World* thus writes about the peculiar growth of the head of Mr. Gladstone :—' I have heard from an authentic source a curious fact concerning Mr. Gladstone. One of his most remarkable physical characteristics is the size of his head. It is altogether exceptional Recently a trusted follower of his was visiting at Hawarden, and one evening the conversation turned on phrenology. Needless to say, Gladstone had included this empirical science in his limitless studies. "I am a bit of a phrenologist myself," said he, "and here is a circumstance that will surprise you. Within the last twenty years my head has grown considerably in size, and I can demonstrate it to you." The old man hied off to an adjoining room and returned with an old Court hat. He explained that it belonged to a uniform he had used early in his official career. Said Mr. Gladstone, placing the hat on his head, "this was large enough for me when I got it ; but it is much too small for me now !" And so it was—it did not go down on his head at all He confessed that the alteration in the size of his head puzzled him, and declared he had never heard of a similar case.

CAPTAIN F. YOUNGHUSBAND, King's Dragoon Guards, has been awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Geographical Society for his journey across Central Asia.

DURING the year ending 31st March the sales of country salt in India amounted to close on 400,000 maunds more than in the preceding year. The net increase in the duty collected was over nine and a quarter lakhs.

THE scheme for a bacteriological establishment at Puna has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and the services of an eminent bacteriologist have been engaged in England for the new institution.

FRIDAY, 25TH APRIL

A NEW system of police signalling, which has been shown in practical operation in miniature, to a small body of experts in London, bids fair, if generally adopted, to deprive these gentry of their occupation. The arrangement is highly ingenious, and simplicity itself. By a system of electric communication, a certain number of specially constructed lamp-posts in a district are made to do duty as signal stations. In a small cupboard in the centre of the post is an apparatus with a clock disc, upon which appear a number of sentences to represent the communications which a policeman would be most likely to make orally if he had the chance, such as "burglary here," "help wanted :" "a riot here," and so on. By simply turning a handle on the disc to the sentence he wishes to convey, the message will immediately appear upon a corresponding disc at the police station, together with the number of the lamp from which it is sent ; and the officer in charge at the police station can just as quickly send back an intimation that the message has been received. Another feature of the system is an arrangement by which a house holder, by means of a key with which he would be furnished by the authorities for a small annual payment, could attract the attention of the policeman on a beat by causing a red signal to appear in the lamp, which would be visible at a considerable distance. The highest police authorities have expressed a very favourable opinion as to the utility of the invention.

'WE appear,' says "Atlas" in *Truth*, 'to have carried to India some of our most cherished notions respecting the sanctity of property. In a recent issue of an Indian paper I find reported three prosecutions at Calcutta before the Chief Justice of Bengal. In the first case, two Mahomedans were respectively sentenced to three and five years' "rigorous imprisonment" (equivalent, I understand, to penal servitude) for stealing a canister of mustard-seed ; in the second, a native was sentenced to three years of the same punishment for stealing two rupees ; in the third, a man who had almost murdered his paramour by cutting her throat, also received three years' rigorous imprisonment." It is written that a grain of mustard-seed is the least of all seeds ; but a canister of it is, nevertheless, of nearly as much value in the eye of the Indian law as a woman's life ; while the foremost of Indian Judges can see no distinction in gravity between a ferocious attempt to murder and the theft of half-a-crown.' Our judicial luminaries should take a note of this, and try to reform their ideas about the sanctity of life and property.

THE Berlin correspondents of the London daily press have dilated on the physical resemblances betwen the new Chancellor of the German Empire and Prince Bismarck. There is, indeed, a striking personal likeness, except in one particular—the voice —which has been pointed out. Nothing astonishes those who see and hear the late Chancellor for the first time so much as the apparent incongruity between his physique and the weakness of his speech. Sitting in the Diplomatic *loge* of the Reichstag, it is with difficulty that he can be heard speaking from the tribune. The bulk of his speeches are delivered in a quet undertone with no apparent emotion. It is only at rare intervals that the intensity of his convictions and feelings gains the mastery, and the voice is with difficulty raised. 'Listening to him, one is reminded of the whale, which, though an enormous animal, has a very small throat, and might be choked by a herring. Caprivi, on the other hand, has a clear sonorous voice, strengthened by much use in the open air. It is calmly mechanical, and without passion. So much for the physical resemblances of the two men. Their intellectual characteristics are as far as the poles asunder.'

SPEAKING of the recent treaty of Sikkim the *Daily Graphic* says :—"It need not be expected that the Anglo-Chinese Treaty just concluded in regard to Sikkim will be of much value. There is strong public opinion in India which favours the opening of trade routes to Lassa, but it will not have prevailed. For they can only be properly made from the little border State, and it would require for that purpose to be formally annexed and put under the English administration. And that would raise some questions at Pekin which are of too burning a description for immedinte settlement. In reality there is no sort of valid reason for the over lordship of Sikkim which is exercised by Chins. It is the relict of a Thibetan superstition which the Rajahs have encouraged by residing at Lassa for considerable periods of the year, when they ought to have been administering their State. Probably the Treaty may do something to slacken the connection ; but we need not anticipate any arrangement which will at once open out the country beyond Everest." Sikkim is British territory to all intents and purposes. 2

SATURDAY, 26TH APRIL.

THE Post Office in China has apparently to be more on its guard than in this country against dishonesty. A recent report tells of a case in which a lady posted a newspaper prepaid as a single paper, but containing a dozen silk handkerchiefs. In another instance a gentleman addressed a newspaper to a lady containing six pairs of gloves and three letters. These were duly forwarded, full letter rate being charged. Unfortunately the senders could not be discovered.

THE *Woman's World* says :—"India seems likely to give an impetus to law study among women, just as it has opened an almost illimitable field for lady-doctors. The difficulty of examining a female witness in the East has long been felt by Judges and Barristers, for it was repugnant to every Indian woman's prejudices to stand up and give evidence in an open Court before men. In cases where their evidence was absolutely indispensable, they attended in closed palanquins, and were permitted to remain closely veiled. The Nizam of Hyderabad has, however, solved the problem in a manner deserving of the highest commendation. He announces his intention of appointing a certain number of ladies to take evidence on Commission in the Zenanas. The qualifications for fulfilling the post of lady law commissioners will be a thorough acquaintance with both Indian and English law, and a good knowledge of Urdu, Persian and Arabic. The salary offered will be high, and the appointments will last for several years." We wish the Nizam's Government would publish the proceedings of these commissions. They would be more interesting than romance-reading.

MR. EARDLEY NORTON will shortly leave Madras for England.

RAJAH AMAR-SINGH of Cashmere, on behalf of the Cashmere Government, has made a grant of Rs. 1,000 a year in aid of the schools in connection with the Anjuman-Hamait-i-Islam, Punjab. This generosity, says the Lahore paper, has had a good effect upon the Mahomedans of the Province.

A BENGAL Government Resolution, reviewing the Embankment Reports for 1888-89, alludes to "the severity of the inundations with which the embanked districts of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions were visited after the heavy rainfall of August, 1888," and adds :—"The losses and suffering caused in embanked districts of Lower Bengal by inundations through breaches in times of flood, and the more frequent occurrence each year of such breaches, in consequence of the deterioration of river channels where embankments exist, are subjects to which much attention has been paid throughout the year. The causes of the defective drainage in the southern portion of the district of Midnapore were investigated by a Committee of Enquiry appointed for that purpose ; and a special survey division was organised to deal with the Damuda and Rupnarain rivers. In both these cases the difficulties are great on account of the gradual silting up of the natural drainage outlets of the country. The difficulty of this drainage question is yearly increasing rather than diminishing, but the matter is being carefully considered, and the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that some practical way of treating it may shortly be arrived at." What has become of the representation which the British Indian Association made on the subject ?

IN the *National Review*, Mr. H. G. Keene writing on "Home Rule for India," says :—"The ears should not be stopped to the voice of reformers. Mr. A. O. Hume, who originated the movement, is neither a Native nor a rebel, but an Englishman of education who has contributed to the cause of his adopted country the prestige of his father's name and his own past services. Other distinguished men, like Sir Madhava Rao, have sympathised, and many of the points raised by them, of which some have been mentioned, are of great value and importance. It is, therefore, from no spirit of trimming or opportunism that moderate but sincere friends of India would urge upon the British Parliament to take whatever is good from the operations of Congress, and to sift the wheat from the chaff."

THE latest use to which Edison's phonograph had been put was to enable a preacher to read his own funeral sermon. Two phonographs were besides the coffin, and service opened with the hymn, "A few more years shall roll." The voice of the preacher's wife was at once recognised, and a profound feeling of awe took possession of the mourning relatives about the bier. From the second phonograph there issued the funeral sermon.

A LEAGUE has been formed in Montreal to bring about the independence of Canada by 1892. All the American Powers are to be asked to exert their moral influence, and, if need be, connected action, to free the Dominion. The League is to be under the control of a Supreme Council, working secretly.

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1890.

BENGALI LITIGIOUSNESS.

IN his remarks on our article on the 'Fallacy about Bengali Litigiousness' the Editor of the *Statesman* is very cautious about committing himself to any unguarded opinion. As a gentleman he can say nothing reasonable against our figures, but he throws discredit on them by observing:—"It would have been more satisfactory, however, had the *Patriot* produced later figures, instead of going back a quarter of a century for its statistics." Our figures are nearly quarter of a century old, we admit, but we cannot for a moment believe that our contemporary has any desire to enunciate the doctrine, that statistical figures, though they be correct, become obsolete by age. We have compared the English figures of 1866 with the Bengali returns of a synchronous period, and intrinsically they are as good now as they were when first compiled. Had we compared the figures of the last year in one country with those of twenty years ago in another it would have been logically wrong, and the whole of them should have been rejected on that ground. But such is not the case, and therefore they stand untainted. To vouch for the accuracy of our figures, we have given the names of our authorities, and it rests with our critics to show that we have cited them wrongly, or have manipulated them dishonestly.

It may be argued that changes have lately taken place in the country in the administration of justice, and that the figures of 1865 and 1866 are no fair representatives of the state of things as they are in the present year. To meet that argument we have given the figures for the past year in Bengal, and they show that changes as regards this country have been not at all great for statistical purposes. Litigiousness stands very much the same in 1889 as it did in 1865. Litigiousness does not follow the same law which regulates influenza, and there have been no epidemics or pandemics in England in the course of the last three decades to account for the extraordinary fluctuations as we would be called upon to assume. Strictly speaking, statistical figures of any two years are seldom identically the same; they are in some particulars or other different, but such differences in comparative statements are immaterial and should always be overlooked. It would have been an advantage if we had the returns of the English Registrar General of the last decade, but we had them not at hand when we last wrote on the subject, and we cannot cite them now. If our contemporary should have them on his table it would be an advantage if he could cite them and show to what extent litigiousness has increased within the last decade.

The real cause, however, is not far to seek. With administrators of a certain class it is of the highest importance to keep open every source of income, and to them the justification of the Stamp tax—a tax on justice—is a source of income which they cannot forego, and they must justify it at all hazards, even at a considerable sacrifice of logic and reason. To give up the Stamp tax on theoretic ground is with them out of the question, and it is no evil to the Natives who are litigious, and the evil, such as it is, cannot be put down by a heavy tax on justice. No matter whether the poor man is aggrieved or not by getting kicked from his lusty neighbour, he must pay a tax before he can go to the nearest beak for redress. It may be that he is deprived of the last farthing in his possession, but in that case he must pay the tax by begging or borrowing, before his case can be heard by a Magistrate. With the powerful man the theory of litigiousness also commends itself very strongly on other grounds. It is a bore to have one's sleep disturbed at night by a somnolent punkha-puller, and then to be hauled before a Magistrate for assault, for pitching a missile at him, though the said pitching may lead to manslaughter, and the theory of litigiousness comes in pat to meet the difficulty. The muscular Christianity of some people leads them to frequent breaches of the peace and the defence founded on the litigious character of the aggrieved is sure to afford in the hands of unscrupulous lawyers materials to make up a good defence. While we write we find in the newspapers of the day advocacy of condign punishment for asking payment for hackney hire, and to all of them the litigious theory is a god-send, and it is not therefore unoften that we see it crop up in official papers. In countries where the poor has a voice the case is different. In England no man can assault his servants without running the risk of either getting a blow in return, or being dragged up before the nearest sitting Magistrate and made the subject of no very kind or sympathetic comment by the local papers. In Bengal, however, as members of a ruling race they find that castigation at the sole instigation of the employers is a convenient remedy. Even at the beginning of this century a European master in Calcutta had only to send the offender to the Recorder's Court with a chit to administer to the said servant fifty lashes or so, and that without any form of justice. Those who wish for a return of the days of this form of justice, are the men who are the loudest in denouncing Bengali litigiousness. For them we have nothing to say. They belong to the same class which have made in some countries the bastinado the chief form of judicial punishment.

The last *Saturday Evening Englishman* remarks:—"The simplest way to form a judgment in the matter is to look at the character of the suits in the Indian courts, when it will be impossible not to see that many of them are of a most trivial description, and to an Englishman's view, not worth the time and trouble they cost." We do not for a moment admit that Jeam in England takes the trouble in selecting his cases and that he does not run to Court with first, 'unparliamentary language' he meets from his master,; but admitting the fact for the sake of argument we wonder how the case would stand. Without any weeding and winnowing the ratio is twelve times more than in Bengal. We should like to know what would be the case if no such winnowing had been allowed, and we had the total of the cases given us without any refraction. The argument about the vast amount of business done in England is no answer whatever to our argument. The question is one of innate disposition and not the amount of business. If the vastness of business really leads to increase litigation the vastness is an evil, and it remains to be shown how much of it is due to necessity and how much to a disposition to quarrel. If the English quarrel more as a matter of fact they are quarrelsome and the plea of vastness is no answer to our charge. By the way reference is made to the literary character of the people of England. If the outcome of most people knowing to read and write, is to make them litigious, we would say that away with our schools altogether. We have already tried without avail the experiment of heavy taxation, we must now depend upon the abolition of schools, and acrimonius paragraphs in newspapers in English which no natives will read. What shifts do some people resort to when they are hard up for arguments!

THE UNCOVENANTED CIVIL SERVICE AGITATION.

THE success of the Uncovenanted Service agitation is calculated to teach us a valuable lesson. The Uncovenanted European servants of the Government of India feeling themselves aggrieved by the depreciation of silver, which reduced the gold value of their retiring pensions and furlough allowances, set on foot a movement for obtaining redress of their grievances. The India Office at first pooh-poohed their claims, and there can be no doubt that it was perfectly justified to do so. The Government as trustees of the public revenues are bound to avoid all expenditure that is not absolutely necessary. The European members of the Uncovenanted Service, Lord Cross rightly held, were not fairly entitled to have their pensions and furlough allowances paid in sterling. His Lordship told them in plain terms that if they considered their claims well founded they should have recourse to legal proceedings to establish them. Lord Cross even offered to give the claimants every possible facility to submit their case to a court of law. But the Uncovenanted Europeans knew very well that they had no *locus standy* in a court of justice. When they entered the service of the Indian Government they did so with their eyes open. They were aware that when the privilege of drawing their pensions in England was granted to them in 1863, the concession was made on the distinct understanding that the payments would be made according to the official rate of exchange; and that that arrangement had been re-affirmed by the Duke of Argyll ten years afterwards when silver began to fall. This being so, it was not expected that the Uncovenanted Europeans could submit their case to a court of justice for decision—a course which meant sure defeat. They made up their minds to carry on a persistent agitation in order to secure the object they had in view. They were right in thinking that if they could persuade the Parliament to support their claims the India Office would be obliged to yield. They were fortunate enough to secure the services of two able and zealous champions in Mr. H. S. King and Sir Roper Lethbridge. These two gentlemen took up the case of the Uncovenanted Europeans in right earnest, and determined to leave no stone unturned to carry it to a successful termination. And as might have been anticipated, their strenuous exertions have been at once crowned with success.

The reader remembers that last cold weather Mr. King made a tour in India in connection with the Unconvenanted question and he was entertained at dinner in Calcutta and Bombay by his clients, and on his return a grand demonstration was held in London. On the 14th ultimo the Indian Uncovenanted and Civil Engineers Associations gave a banquet at the Hotel Metropole, at which Sir Roper Lethbridge presided. The Company, which numbered about 170, included many distinguished Anglo-Indians. Mr. King proposed "the cause" in an enthusiastic speech. He said:—"I have by a long and painful process mastered the various grievances of the Services, which it has been the desire of those who have organised this meeting to get remedied; and as the result of my long study, I have become convinced of the existence of legitimate grievances which ought to be remedied, and I had recently also had the opportunity of discussing with the members of the Services in India, and with leading officials of the Government the difficult, and in many respects the serious, problems which it is our object to solve." We should very much like to ask Mr. King whether in his study of this important question he made himself acquainted with the conditions on which the Uncovenanted Servants of the Indian Government were permitted by the rules of 1863 to draw their pensions in England, and whether he read carefully the correspondence that passed on this subject in 1873 between the Government of India and the then Secretary of State, the Duke of Argyll. If Mr. King has not read these papers, he cannot claim to have mastered the Uncovenanted question in all its bearings. Mr. King observed:—"We ask for an enquiry by the House of Commons into the grievances of the Uncovenanted Civil Service. We ask that that committee should be composed of men unprejudiced by their previous life, men of business accustomed to decide these questions—independent members of the House of Commons." We also hope that the Select Committee about to be appointed for enquiring into the alleged grievances of the Uncovenanted Europeans should be composed of unprejudiced and independent members of the House of Commons. And we trust that the Committee will master the question thoroughly in all its aspects before submitting their report. Sir Roper Lethbridge, in responding to the toast proposed by Mr. King, read the letters that had passed between himself and Sir John Gorst regarding the appointment of a Select Committee. Sir Roper told the Uncovenanted Europeans that they must not imagine that they have won the battle. He remarked:—"Gentlemen, we have to-day won the first position on our road to victory; we have stormed the first parallel. It is for you and your friends—our friends—in India to win the whole of the battle, and when, finally, we have won that battle, we shall remember that these our friends of the

Covenanted Civil Service and of the Military Services have spontaneously and before the Government had shown any intention of their coming to our help, voluntarily come forward to assist us in our demands on the Government. Of course the change of position will necessitate a very serious and important change in our method of advance. Hitherto it has been our object to persuade the House of Commons to apply to the India Office and to the Government of India that gentle pressure which might justify these great authorities in conceding to us the justice which we demand. We have advanced various arguments to the House of Commons. We have endeavoured to establish at any rate a *prima facie* case to establish our demands. But now I need not point out to you that the circumstances are altered. We have to begin *ab initio*. We have to show the Select Committee of the House of Commons chapter and verse for every one of those demands which we have been at times pressing upon the notice of the House." Yes, we hope the Committee will require the Uncovenanted Europeans to show chapter and verse for their demand to have their pensions and furlough allowances in sterling. They must be put to strict proof of their claims in this respect. We trust that the members of the Committee will not allow themselves to be led away by mere claptrap and special pleading. And in common fairness the Committee should hear both sides of the question. The Uncovenanted Services are arranging to send witnesses from India to give evidence before the Select Committee about to be appointed and the India Office has promised to grant special leave to the witnesses and defray their travelling expenses. We very much doubt whether a similar concession will be made to witnesses who may desire to proceed to England and give evidence before the Committee on behalf of the tax-payer, who has a right to be heard on this question. If no such concession be made, we hope the Committee will at least examine the Congress delegates now in England, more particularly Mr. Dadabhai Naoreji, who has for years made the economic and financial questions connected with India his special study.

We would have it distinctly understood that we have no wish whatever to stand in the way of the Uncovenanted Europeans getting all to which they may be fairly entitled, under the terms of their agreements with the Government of India, either express or implied. Let even-handed justice be done to them by all means. We cannot, however, persuade ourselves to believe after a careful study of the case, that they are suffering from any wrong. It is true that in some of the contracts made with the Uncovenanted Europeans the rupee was described as the equivalent of two shillings; but this description which represented a bare fact cannot create a right to have pensions and furlough allowances paid in sterling. There is one circumstance connected with this question, which should demand the most careful and attentive consideration at the hands of the Committee about to be appointed by the House of Commons. As every body knows, the Uncovenanted European servants of the Indian Government have Family Pension Fund of their own, which receives liberal assistance from the State. Owing to the heavy fall in the value of silver, the annuitants of the Fund residing in England preferred a claim to have their annuities paid in sterling. Did the Directors of the Fund, who are themselves Uncovenanted servants of Government, entertain this claim? No, they did nothing of the kind. They felt no hesitation whatever in rejecting it as absolutely untenable. This being so, we are entirely at a loss to understand why the Indian tax-payer should be made to find the money required to pay in sterling the pensions and furlough allowances of the European members of the Uncovenanted Service. Sweet is the dance when another pays.

SIR CHARLES DILKE ON INDIA.

Sir Charles Dilke's recently-published work entitled *Problems of Greater Britain* has naturally attracted much attention and excited a good deal of interest among the British public. The problems which the book seeks to solve may, speaking broadly, be described as two:—How is England to retain control of her Colonies if she goes to war with any great European power? How is she to retain control of her Colonies if her Colonies wish to become independent? We do not purpose to discuss these large questions in the present article. The portion of the book which possesses immediate interest for the Indian public, is that which deals with the affairs of this country. Sir Charles Dilke lays down that the first duty of England in India is that of defending the country against anarchy and invasion; and that her other greatest duty is to learn how to deal with what is commonly called the Congress movement, namely with the development of the New India which the English have themselves created. Sir Charles says:—"Our past work in India has been a splendid task splendidly performed, but there is a still nobler one before us, and one larger even than that labours on the Irish problem to which our public men on both sides seem too much inclined to give their whole attention." Yes, England may well be proud of the noble work she has so far performed in India. We have always maintained the view that if she had done nothing beyond giving us the blessings of *Pax Brittanica* which now prevails throughout the length and breadth of the land, and the benefits of Western culture which we have the good fortune to enjoy, these two acts alone would have fully justified her conquest of the country. But although England has so far performed a splendid task in India much still remains to be done before her mission in this country can be said to have been accomplished. The noble policy which she has hitherto pursued in India has yet to be carried to its logical conclusion; and there is no doubt that this can only be done by satisfying the honourable and legitimate aspirations of the educated Indians to take a fair share in the administration of their own country.

It is an article of the average Indian bureaucrat's political creed that the educated classes in this country desire the overthrow of British rule. Sir Charles Dilke had steadily shown that such a belief is absolutely baseless. He observes: "In the first place it must be remembered that there is nothing before the native mind to replace our Government, and that even among the wilder spirits of the opposition there is no intention of attempting to replace it, although there may be that of altering it to an extent which it will not bear. It is for us to see in what degree it is possible to give satisfaction to the critics, without weakening, although we may modify, the nature of the fabric. Above all, it is essential to the continuation of our rule under the changed conditions that the individual Englishman in India should behave towards the people as the best behaved at present.* * * It may be true that the native reformers do not sufficiently denounce what Sir John Strachey calls 'the atrocious practices' which, under the cover of immemorial custom, are followed throughout India; but to attack political agitators for sedition and hatred of the British Government, thinly veiled under frequent and fulsome expressions of devotion and loyalty, is not to advance matters, but, on the contrary, only to increase the want of sympathy between our Government and those who have been trained by our own acts to be our critics." These sensible and thoughtful observations we commend to the Anglo-Indian opponents of the Congress movement, whose name is legion. These gentlemen hold that any adverse criticism of the measures of Government or of the proceedings of its individual officers is disloyalty, and any agitation for the introduction of reforms into the existing system of administration is sedition. Sir Charles Dilke pertinently asks these gentlemen, "whether in these days it is possible to contemplate the prolonged exclusion from all political power in any form of races which are extraordinarily numerous, which are becoming rich, and which are receiving in many cases the best education that the world can give." It is for our Anglo-Indian friends to carefully consider and answer the question which Sir Charles Dilke has put to them. He remarks:—"There would be danger if English opinion were to prompt the continuance in face of the education of picked natives in European learning and ideas, of the treatment of all natives as inferiors by a handful of virtually unprotected whites. When it has been recognised that the natives form in fact an admirable working population, having among them magnificent fighting men and trained administrators who must be given that fair share in government which they may claim to have won by reason of their prowess and of their talents, there will be no harm or internal risk." Again: "That those who are disagreeably criticised by agitators, and who may conceivably be thereby displeased, should be zealous of the notice which has been accorded to them is natural, but can form in itself no reason for denying claims which apparently are in a large degree consistent with the interests of the Empire. As has been well shown, men who speak English better than most Englishmen; who conduct able newspapers in our language; who form the majority in town councils which admirably supervise the affairs of great cities; who, as native judges, have reached the highest judicial posts; who occupy seats on the Provincial, the Presidency, and the Viceregal Councils, or, as powerful ministers, excellently rule vast Native States—can no longer be treated as hopelessly inferior to ourselves in governmental power." Sir Charles Dilke thinks that it is no longer possible to maintain an attitude of resistance towards the aspirations of the educated natives; and that the wisest course is to satisfy these aspirations which the English have themselves created. And he is convinced that it would be possible to do so in such a manner as to strengthen rather than weaken England's hold on the country. But the average Indian bureaucrat thinks differently. He has persuaded himself that if the smallest concession were granted to the children of the soil, it would seriously affect the permanence of British rule in India.

The National Congress movement, Sir Charles Dilke points out, "is based upon our declarations of 1833 and 1858." After quoting the pledges contained in the Charter Act of 1833 and the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 regarding the employment of Natives of India in the public service of their own country, Sir Charles says: "The natives declare that these promises have been violated in the past, and assure us that if in these days of extending education we alienate the educated class, and force them to believe that as long as the English remain in India there will be no place in Government for them, we shall weaken our hold upon the country and our ability to tax it sufficiently to provide for military defence against the armies of first class power. Lord Macaulay in his minutes and his speeches foresaw all the difficulties of the present time, and was for facing them. After the Mutiny, we were tempted to withdraw from the position of 1833 and 1858; instead of withdrawing from it we deliberately re-affirmed it. Since that time we have extended English education and the use of the English tongue, but looking to the present diffusion of administrative power among natives it must be confessed that we have in some degree disregarded our own promises. This is shown by the class of men who go from our Indian Colleges to take part in ruling Native States, because they have not sufficient openings under us. The result is a natural, though a partial, discontent, and in creating a single India for Governmental purposes we have not only effected a fabric which in itself does much to unite discontent throughout India, but have, in our own tongue, given the discontent a common language known to all journalists and barristers and most clerks—known, that is, to the whole of those likely to furnish the spokesmen of discontent." Sir Charles Dilke is satisfied that India is likely to develop into a Federal Empire; and that in the development of the Provincial system, which would gradually create a federal India, except for fiscal and military purposes, the natives must undoubtedly play a leading part. He is at the same time thoroughly convinced "that the Congress movement really represents the cultivated intelligence of the country and that those who ridicule it do harm to the Imperial interests of Great Britain, bitterly wounding and alienating men who are justified in doing what they do, who do it in reasonable and cautious form and who ought to be conciliated by being met half-way." This is the language of genuine statesmanship which the opponents of the great national movement would do well to ponder over. Well has Sir

Charles Dilke said that many of the Native gentlemen who have come forward to attack the Congress do so to ingratiate themselves with their British rulers and to push their claims to decoration. After briefly describing the proposals put forward by the Congress for the reform of the Legislative Councils, Sir Charles Dilke does not hesitate to say that a constitution of this kind would be workable and would not produce any revolutionary change in India.

THE GREAT SOUTHERN OF INDIA RAILWAY PURCHASE BILL.

IN the course of his speech on the third reading of the Railways Bill, Mr. Scoble announced the other day that the contract with the Great Southern of India Railway Company would expire in the course of the next few months. The Government has decided to purchase this line, and in order to give effect to this decision a Bill has been carried through Parliament. The motion for the second reading of the Bill in the House of Commons gave rise to an interesting debate. It was opened by Mr. A. O'Connor, who justly observed at the outset that the measure related to a part of the Empire the inhabitants of which had no effective control over their own affairs, and that it was only in the House of Commons that they had any chance of justice being done to them. On behalf of the voiceless and helpless millions of India, Mr. O.'Connor strongly protested against such an important measure being read for the second time at 11-30 P. M. with only a show of explanation. He said: "The Bill proposed to enable the Secretary of State for India to deal with a sum of no less than £5,250,000, but the House had no explanation as to how it was that the Secretary of State was vested with authority to say that he would go and buy an undertaking in India for five, ten, or twelve millions. Some explanation should be offered as to the condition of the railway and the reasonableness of the sum offered for purchase. The House was asked to saddle with this sum the people of India already exceedingly heavily burdened in respect of railways, and they ought to be told what were the further liabilities that the Government of India would incur over and above the liabilities with respect to leave allowances, and pensions which weighed in every part of the Indian service. * * * They knew from the report of 1871 that one of the railways started and purchased at the expense of the people of India was in such a bad condition that within a few years 2,000 bridges and other important structures had to be built at the expense of the public." Mr. O.'Connor clearly showed that the Great Southern of India Railway was the least satisfactory of all the guaranteed railways in India. It is a line of 654 miles in length running from Madras to Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly. Its working expenses came up to about 70 per cent. of the gross receipts, while the working expenses of other guaranteed lines range between 44 and 58 per cent of the gross earnings. The capital expended on this line up to 31st December 1888 was, in round numbers, 4¾ millions; while net revenue was only £160,000 for the year, and the amount of guaranteed interest was no less than £213,000. It is thus clear that there is an annual loss of £53,045 on account of the line which the Government has decided to purchase. Mr. O'Connor observed: "This was the sort of job, for it looked much like a job, that the Government brought before the House at this late hour. They were seeking to buy a thing which, as regarded its practical value, was worthless. It might be said that this line had a strategic value; but it was not so; it was almost a coast line, and was not in any way near the Russian frontier, or Afghanistan, Beluchistan, or Burma." Mr. O'Connor concluded his able speech by demanding an explanation from the Government.

In the absence of Sir John Gorst, the Under-Secretary of State for India, the task of furnishing the required information was undertaken by Sir James Fergusson. He assured the House that there was no job at all in the matter; and that those who were responsible for the Government of India had well considered the measure and were satisfied that it would be for the benefit of the country. Sir James Fergusson proceeded to explain how this result would be achieved. He asked the House to bear in mind that the Government of India had to pay a guaranteed interest of 5 per cent. for 49 years on the capital expended in the construction of this railway, that it was one of the early railways which were designed to develop the resources of the country; and that at the time the guarantee was given 5 per cent. was the normal rate of interest in India. We readily admit that there is much force in these observations; but the hard fact remains that during the last 40 years Indian railways whether built by guaranteed companies or by the State, have imposed an annual charge of two crores on the taxpayer. The Great Southern of India Railway was of course undertaken in the expectation that the more capital expended in its construction would prove a sound and profitable investment; but the line has hardly ever paid 3 per cent. on its capital outlay. Sir James Fergusson said:—"On the assumption that the money could be provided by the issue of India three per cent. Stock at par, the present charge being £196,000, and the future annual charge a little over £159,000 there would be annual saving of £36,000. The Hon'ble member asked what security was there that this line would not involve an additional capital expenditure to repair. That was secured by the provisions under which lines were inspected by officers of the Government of India. Having himself been engaged in the administration of railway in Bombay for five years, he could assure the House that every care was taken that railways were maintained in thorough working order, so that no further charge could fall on the State. The line was not near the actual frontier, but it was one which had been devised for the benefit of India, and which was useful for the general purposes of the country and he hoped that they would regard the military question as the only one to be considered." There can be no doubt that if the expectations on which the decision of Government to purchase the Great Southern of India Railway is based are realized the transaction would be a profitable one. But painful experience has taught us that such expectations are seldom fulfilled. The over-sanguine estimates of enthusiatic engineers who are ambitious to have their names connected with magnificent works often prove fallacious, and the tax-payer has to suffer in the end.

The discussion on the Bill made it clear that the House of Commons would no longer sanction the perpetration of such scandalous jobs as that of the purchase of the Orissa and Sone Canals from the bankrupt East India Irrigation and Canal Company. Sir John Lubbock, the distinguished financier, who followed Sir James Fergusson, said that he was entirely satisfied that there was no job, and that the Indian Government had exercised every care. Sir George Campbell remarked that it was most advantageous that great lines of communication should be in the hands of Government. He asked for information as to the policy of the Government in the future regarding railways, and pertinently observed that the State should undertake the construction of lines instead of offering guarantees to private Companies. We fully agree with Sir George Campbell, and are glad to be able to say that the Government of India have decided to adopt the course recommended by him. In his speech on the Budget debate on the 28th ultimo, Sir Charles Elliott, the Public Works Member, said:—"Looking at the system of employing guaranteed companies of the old class, however much we may admit that the creation of these companies was justified by the fact that it would have hardly been possible for the State at that time to have raised the whole of this capital on its own credit, it cannot be denied that it is not economical to pay 3½ or 4 per cent. to raise money through the agency of Companies when it can be raised by the State at 3 per cent as is the case now. Therefore it is not the policy of Government to encourage the creation of any more Companies on terms corresponding to those I have just mentioned, by which the capital raised by the shareholders, while subject to no risk, is secure of receiving a larger share of interest than capital would receive which was lent to the Secretary of State on the security of the Government of India. If we can borrow at 3 per cent. it seems unnecessary to go to a company to ask it to borrow for us at 3½ or 4 per cent." This is the language of common sense. But in order to place the railway policy of Government on a sound and satisfactory footing, it will not merely do to abandon the practice of guaranteeing lines in the hands of private companies. The Government cannot be too careful in the matter of railway extension, in view of the fact that the Indian taxpayer, notwithstanding all that is said as to the soundness of Indian railway investments, has still to bear an annual charge of two crores for the lines which have been already constructed. And we need hardly state that railways have now been built along the most important lines of communication, and the returns which are yielded on the money expended on railways in the past ought not to be regarded as affording any evidence that similar returns will be obtained from capital which may be expended in the future. At any rate, the Government should not undertake the construction with borrowed funds of railways which, like the Great Southern of India Railway, cannot be expected to prove remunerative. It should be carefully borne in mind that, although there has recently been, on the average of years, an improvement in the returns of the guaranteed railways, yet in no single year except in 1877-78, which was a year of wide-spread and severe famine, has the return on the aggregate expenditure on railways been sufficient to meet the interest on the capital expended.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

IT has been announced that the High Court vacation this year will extend from the 17th of September to the 26th of November, and that Messrs. Prinsep and Wilson will be the vacation Judges.

THE thirty-eighth annual meeting of the British Indian Association will be held at the Association Rooms on Wednesday at 4-30 P. M.

THE Maharaja of Patiala has made a very munificent gift of Rs. 50,000 for the establishment of scholarships in the Punjab University. The noble example set by the Maharaja ought to be followed in the sister provinces.

REPLYING to Mr. Bradlaugh in the House of Commons on Friday evening, Sir John Gorst said that the opinions of Lord Dufferin and Lord Lansdowne on the elective principle were confidential. He also stated that the recommendations of the Finance Committee would save a million and a tenth in tens of rupees, although the same would be carried into execution gradually.

THE following subscriptions have, we are glad to hear, been recently received by the Bengal Branch of the Countess of Dufferin Fund, for the new Hospital for Women in Calcutta. The Maharaja of Bettiah has given Rs. 5,000, the Amban Rs. 500, Raja Peary Mohun Mukerji Rs. 500, and Sah Kripa Dal, of Lucknow, Rs. 200, Nawab Syed Ata Hussein of Khagra has also given a donation of Rs. 500, in commemoration of the visit of Prince Albert Victor.

BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJEE has addressed several large and influential meetings in England, during the past week, in all of which resolutions were passed urging the necessity of recognising the elective principle in the India Councils Bill. We are glad to hear that detailed reports of the proceedings of these meetings are published in the *Times* and other influential English papers. Babu Surendranath was ably supported by many distinguished statesmen who have the welfare of India at heart. We are happy to notice that Sir John Phear presided at one of these meetings. Sir John's sympathies with the people of India are well-known, and it is a real pleasure to his friends to see him taking a prominent part in Indian movements.

Distressing reports reach us from Jessore regarding certain indigo disputes. It is the old tale of planters against raiyats, and the Magistrate siding with the former. But these disputes have certain peculiar features which are well worthy of a careful consideration of the Government of Bengal. We have heard of raiyats flying from their houses, and the military police being called in to preserve order. Riots have not occurred, but things are at such a pass that heads may be broken on the slightest provocation. The notoriety which Mr. Luson's name has acquired makes it undesirable that he should have any thing to do with the settlement of the disputes. Could not some other officer, whose aggressiveness is not so pronounced as that of Mr. Luson, be deputed to make an inquiry into the matter? Mr. Smith, the Commissioner, may have faith in Mr. Luson's peace-making propensities, but the raiyats do not share in this faith; and it is urgently necessary that a proper inquiry should be promptly made into the complaints which have so loudly been made.

We regret Dr. P. K. Ray withdrew, at the meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University, on Saturday last, his amendment, which he had moved at a previous meeting, asking that the Syndicate be requested to lay down some principle for the appointment of Fellows in Faculties &c. There have been scandalous proceedings lately with regard to these appointments, we wish an opportunity had been given to the Senators to lay bare the true character of these proceedings. The Syndicate seems to be a irresponsible body, which works in the dark, and the Senate knows nothing of its proceedings till it is too late to take any notice of them. It has become absolutely necessary now to define the powers of the Syndicate. Our idea is that there should be a provision in the Bye-laws by which the proceedings of the Syndicate should be confirmed by the Senate, and for this purpose the Senate should hold its meetings oftener than it does at present.

Complaints have been made regarding the accommodation and other arrangements in the Leper Asylum. We are glad to hear there is no substantial ground for them. The Asylum has been recently visited by Sir Henry Harrison, Mr. Lee, by three American Lady Doctors, and by other competent persons, who have all left on record favorable opinions regarding its condition and management. Mr. Justice Prinsep, in company with Mr. Lambert, also paid a visit to it. In his opinion, considering the nature of the disease from which the inmates suffer, the place was singularly clean and well-managed. Dr. Crombie's report also speaks very favorably of the present management. This is satisfactory, and ought to lay public apprehension at rest. It is admitted that the wards for native male lepers, Hindu and Mahomedan, are somewhat over-crowded; but this overcrowding in the present state of things cannot be prevented. If the recent movement regarding a Leper Asylum on an improved scale comes to anything, care will no doubt be taken to remove the evil complained of. Certain charitably inclined persons recently pressed donations on the Committee of the District Charitable Society with a request that these should be applied in providing extra comforts to the inmates of the Asylum. The Committee are prepared to accept the donations, but they cannot receive them saddled with conditions to which it would be utterly impossible to give effect without seriously disturbing their present arrangements. They are perfectly right in not permiting any interference with their management. That the Leper Asylum is capable of considerable improvement does not admit of a question. But it is wrong to blame the District Charitable Society for not carrying it out. The funds at the disposal of the Society would not allow the Committee to introduce the necessary reforms. It cannot too often be brought to public notice that the care of the Asylum is not within the proper sphere of the duties of the Society. It needs a more effective agency than the District Charitable Society to place the Asylum on a basis which would be capable of meeting all charges, real or imaginary, that may be preferred against it.

Mr. Lee has modestly entered on his duties. On Thursday last he opened the proceedings of the meeting of the Commissioners without any flourish of trumpets. He said he had no opening speech to make. This is not a bad beginning. It shows at any rate, he will not indulge in rhetorical exhibitions. 'A well-graced actor has left the stage' and it is but natural that 'the eyes of men should be bent on him who enters next.' It is certainly 'idle' now to speculate about the attitude which he will take regarding the vexed questions which are agitating the minds of men. We must judge him by his acts. The work before him is extremely difficult, and every allowance must be made for his inexperience. We must ask all the Commissioners to give him every assistance that lies in their power to facilitate his work. In one or two things Mr. Lee has already won the good opinion of his colleagues, and we are glad of it. We shall watch his municipal career with anxious interest.

Mr. Cowie, the Secretary to the Corporation, has been appointed to act, in addition to his other duties, as Vice-Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality during Babu Gapal Lall Mitter's leave of absence. This was perhaps the best arrangement that could be made under the circumstances. Mr. Cowie will simply carry on the current duties of the Vice-Chairman. It will be no part of his duty to hear objections filed against the assessments of houses. Mr. Cowie has acted wisely in declining to hear assessment appeals. The work would have simply overwhelmed him.

At the last general meeting of the proprietors and first class subscribers of the Calcutta Public Library, under the presidency of Maharaja Sir Narendra Krishna Bahadur, the chairman in giving a brief and interesting account of the institution said that it had been in existence for 55 years, and that it enjoyed at one time great popularity with all classes of the community. The Library now contains numberless rare and valuable books not possessed by any other institution in Calcutta. The pecuniary condition of the Library has not for some time been in a very satisfactory condition, and it has been necessary to solicit Government help. This help has been generously accorded by Sir Steuart Bayley's Government. "Our grateful thanks," said the chairman, "are due to Sir Steuart Bayley for the gift of Rs.5,000, and for obtaining for us an annual grant of Rs. 8,000 from the Calcutta Corporation." The Library will now be placed on a sound basis, and for this the public is mainly indebted to Sir Steuart Bayley. The importance of the services which Maharaja Sir Narendakrishna has rendered to the Library cannot be overrated, and we are glad that the Council has duly acknowledged them. The Library has now been placed under the joint management of the proprietors and the Municipality, and we feel sure that it will again prosper under this joint management.

The third Report of the Kumbuliatollah Boys' Reading Club is before us. We are glad to find that the Club is continuing to do its good work. With Mr. Stack as President, and the Hon'ble Justice Gurudas Banerji, Mr. Beveridge, Mr. M. Ghose, and Babu Narendra Nath Sen as Vice-Presidents, and seventeen able and energetic young men as members of the Committee the club is bound to prosper. We agree with Mr. Scoble, who presided at the last anniversary meeting that the more such institutions are multiplied the better.

At Saturday's meeting of the Senate, Mr. A. M. Bose moved "that a Committee be appointed to examine the Act of Incorporation of the University (Act II of 1857) with a view to suggest to the Senate what amendments, if any, are necessary in the Act in order to meet the present requirements of the University." Mr. Bose in a powerful and exhaustive speech discussed the question in all its bearings. It is fully third of a century now that the Act of Incorporation was passed, and the educational requirements of the people had materially changed. What was true in 1857 is not true at the present day. What satisfied our people thirty-three years ago, does not satisfy them at the present day. Conditions which prevented the Legislature from inserting provisions, which would have been inoperative at that time, have now been removed. The Punjab and the North-West have now Universities of their own, and the area of the operations of this University has been greatly contracted. Improvements can now be introduced which could not be thought of at the time when the Act of Incorporation was passed. The Despatch of 1854 contemplated reforms in the educational system of the country, which could not be carried out under the circumstances under which the University was first started. Now is the time to give effect to the original idea. The Allahabad University Act contains many liberal provisions which ought to find a place in our Act. The University should be allowed to grow, and ought not to be confined in its primitive cell. His Excellency the Viceroy in his last Convocation Speech unmistakably showed his willingness to introduce certain radical reforms in the University; and there is a general feeling in the country that measures should at once be taken to improve the present system. No improvement is possible unless the Act of Incorporation be modified. Mr. Bose made out a complete case for inquiry, and it could at once be seen that the general sense of the meeting was with him. Mr. Tawney and Sir Alfred Croft opposed the motion, and their speeches, as Mr. Justice Norris pointed out, had a family resemblance. Mr. Tawney's argument was that the University has not been able to make 'a decent use' of the powers it already possesses, and it would be absurd to ask for fresh powers, when its organisation was so incomplete that examination questions were known before the examination commenced. 'If a committee of inquiry be appointed,' said Mr. Tawney, 'great many vexed questions would have to be considered besides those mentioned by Mr. Bose.' Sir Alfred Croft said that the development of the Professorial system had not kept pace with the growth of the Collegiate system, whatever that might mean. The want of competent Professors in any branch of knowledge, Sir Alfred said, has never been keenly felt. He forgot that the object of Mr. Bose's motion was not to convert the University into a teaching body, though Mr. Bose certainly wished that there should be no legal bar to appointing University Professors. There are cogent reasons why the Calcutta University should not, under the present circumstances, be a teaching University, and we have often expressed our opinion on the subject. But at the same time the University ought not to be clogged by provisions in the Act which stunt its growth. It should have a broad basis, and its aim should be to advance the intellectual culture of the nation to the highest pitch of perfection. Mr. Justice Norris said that Mr. Tawney had remarked that if they appointed a Committee, a great number of other questions would come up for consideration. That admission, coming from such an authoritative quarter, struck him as the most cogent reason for appointing the Committee asked for. The Vice-Chancellor's sympathies were evidently with the mover, but it was apparent that official etiquette prevented him from giving an unqualified support to the motion. The resolution was put to the meeting and carried by an overwhelming majority. There were only three votes against it. The following gentlemen were then appointed a Committee for the purpose of carrying out the object of the resolution:—The Hon'ble Sir Henry Harrison, Mr. Gilliland, Dr. Warden, Babu Rajkumar Sarvadhikari, Rev. Fr. Neut, Hon'ble Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, Mr. N. N. Ghose, Rev. K. S. Macdonald, Dr. K. McLeod, Mr. Nash, Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjee, Babu Kalichurn Banerjee, Dr. P. K. Ray, Babu Krishnabehari Sen, Nawab Abdool Luteef, Babu Debendranath Roy, Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, and the Mover.

Meetings, under the auspices of the Calcutta Standing Congress Committee, were held in Beadon Street on Saturday last to protest against Lord Cross's India Councils Bill. Both the meetings were crowded to such an extent that admission

had at last to be refused to a large number of people. They were attended by representative men. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. All the gentlemen present were animated by one feeling. There was not a single discordant element to mar the proceedings. All the speakers expressed in moderate language their dissatisfaction with Lord Cross's Bill, and carried the meetings with them. Babu Dwijendranath Tagore presided at one meeting and Babu Narendranath Sen at the other. Babus Rabindranath Tagore, Kalichurn Banerji, Kalinath Mitter, Surendranath Palchowdhuri, and Saradacharan Mitter were among the speakers. We were surprised to see an orthodox Pandit, dressed in orthodox style, descanting on eloquent terms on the deficiencies of the Bill. He seemed to have thoroughly realised all its evil consequences. Most of the speakers spoke in vernacular, and were greatly applauded. The speakers one and all firmly and at the same time respectfully gave expression to views which even the severest critic of the Congress movement would not be able to find fault with. The audience behaved in a remarkably decorous manner, and it was a pleasure to see how our countrymen could conduct themselves when grave political questions were discussed. The following Resolutions were unanimously passed:

1. That this meeting views with apprehension and alarm the introduction of Lord Cross's India Councils Bill into the House of Lords, and desires to record its firm conviction that if this measure be passed into law in its present shape, it will create deep and wide-spread discontent and injure the vital interests of the Indian nation. This meeting is strongly of opinion that the time has now arrived when Representative Councils on elective basis may be safely introduced into this country, and the privilege of interpellation conferred on the members of these Councils; and this meeting therefore respectfully but firmly enters its emphatic and unqualified protest against the provisions of the said Bill.

2. That this meeting do emphatically affirm and distinctly declare its belief that, the reform and expansion of the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and of the Provincial Legislative Councils as embodied in the Bill introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Bradlaugh M. P. have become essential alike in the interests of India and England.

THE exact nature of the Kole agitation is not generally known. In Chota Nagpore the proprietory right of the land belongs to members of a family who are better known as the Rajas of Chota Nagpore. The lands in this part of the country are high and dry. There being no easy communication with the interior, the produce market was very dull, and the annual rent of the land extremely low. This was not all; there was no demand for land, and the result was that the raiyats, who paid rent for about 2 biggas of land enjoyed the possession of 8 to 10 biggas free of rent. To this no objection was ever taken. The only recompense which the landlord obtained in return was a kind of "free labour" usually called the *bagar*. This was a system under which the tenure-holders cultivated a certain extent of land paying low rent, and giving "free labour"; and this was considered a sufficient compensation for any excess of land enjoyed by the tenants. We are told that each village had a quantity of arable land allotted to its share for such 'free labour,' or *bagar*. Famine, epidemics, and, above all, the cooli-recruiting system, have all worked together to reduce the number of villagers, whose titles to the tenures have lapsed, and whose lands have passed into the Raj. This has necessarily swelled the quantity of *bagar* lands. It will thus be seen that as the quantity of labour began to decrease in the land, the demand on behalf of the Raj family began to increase. Within the last ten years a colony of German Lutherian Priests have settled in this part of the country. It seems that these priests not only brought their own religion to the country, but their politics also. It is, therefore, not at all surprising that with their superior education they have succeeded in imbuing the semi-civilized Koles with German ideas of socialism. The Koles now dispute the right of the Raj to exact 'free labour' from men who pay rent for the land. Inquiry has shown that the agitation is confined among the native converts alone, while the orthodox classes still cheerfully render services which their fore-fathers gave to the Raj from time immemorial.

THE following extract from one of the London Weeklies will be read with interest:—"On Wednesday, March 26th, the foundation-stone of the new or Jubilee-wing of this Hospital (the Ormond Street Hospital for children), was *laid by a patient* in the Louise Ward, John Hart, a bright little fellow, aged eleven, the son of a sergeant in 2nd West Kent Regiment, who had an injury to his left leg by a kick from a horse, which necessitated amputation of the limb." What would our countrymen think of such a spectacle as this?

OUR readers will be glad to hear that 'La Nona' has been pronounced by competent medical authorities to be a tremendous hoax. This is what Sir Morell Mackenzie says of it:—"I do not know anything about this complaint; indeed, I do not believe in it at all. I am inclined to think it is a 'put up' affair, to advertise some 'sleeping wonder,' and that is all that can be said about it." Dr. Donelan, another eminent London physician, speaks in terms no less emphatic. He says:—"I do not think there is any resemblance between the symptoms of *pellagra* and those described in the so-called "La Nona." There are no cases of trance recorded as having occurred after previous epidemics of Influenza; but, though there are cases in which bad food produced such lowering of the circulation as to cause gangrene of the fingers and toes, I think it scarcely possible that Influenza, even when occurring in persons whose constitutions have been debilitated from the use of impure food, such as bread made of diseased rye or maize, could produce such a state of anœmia of the brain as to cause a condition of sleep or trance. * * * * I am not aware of any sleeping disease affecting Europeans in epidemic form. There is, of course, the African Lethargy, or 'sleeping disease of Siera Leone,' but that affects Negroes *exclusively*, and is fatal. I do not think we are likely to have any cases of *La nona*,—if *any such disease really exists*." Opinions such as those quoted above ought to give some assurance to our fellow-citizens, and they may now quietly go to sleep. 'La nona' is a creature of heated fancy, which is not likely to disturb our equanimity, if we have any, in this grilling weather.

IT is improper to continue the Durbhanga Temple case agitation any longer. Government has done in the matter all that could be done. A severe censure has been passed on Mr. Beadon, the author of the mischief, and he has been transferred from the district. Mr. Beadon himself has expressed his "profound personal regret for the unfortunate incidents of the case." He "conscientiously and sincerely believed that the dismantling of the building 'was not in any way calculated to outrage religious sentiment.' "I willingly admit now," he says, "when I can look back and see all that has transpired that my orders were likely to be misunderstood, and that I should have made my meaning clearer. It did not occur to me that the orders I passed would lead to the immediate demolition of the building. So far my order was indiscreet, and my action open to censure." The Lieutenant-Governor is fully satisfied that Mr. Beadon was innocent of intending outrage or insult to the Hindus, and that 'he meant only to remove from Government ground a new unconsecrated building which would otherwise become a temple.' It has been abundantly proved that Mr. Beadon was mistaken, and he himself acknowledges his error, and expresses contrition. The Lieutenant Governor in noticing Mr. Beadon's 'careless administration,' has recorded his disapproval of Mr. Beadon's action in this case. In conveying his orders to the Commissioner, His Honor says:—"He (Mr. Beadon) is an officer of ripe experience and of unquestioned ability and industry, but in the interest of good administration it is impossible to pass by, without censure, deficiences and errors in executive action so serious as those which your report discusses." The circumstances of this case have rendered it impossible, continues His Honor, 'to leave Mr. Beadon any longer in charge of the Durbhanga district. He has already been relieved of his appointment and his transfer gazetted. No further action is called for at present.' It has been announced that "the Government lays no claim to the temple site, and that the Municipality have been advised to sanction the building of a new temple." These orders were passed on the 22nd of March, and they ought to have satisfied every right-minded person. We were surprised to see that 'a largely attended mass meeting' was held at Mazufferpore, on the 22nd of April, expressing disappointment at the decision of Government. Agitation of a question when its end has been attained does more harm than good, and we do earnestly hope that it will now be stopped. Mr. Beadon is transferred with ignominy and humiliation from his district, and the wrong has been repaired in every possible way. No sensible man could expect anything more in the way of reparation. We see that a question was asked about this unfortunate case in Parliament, and Sir John Gorst said in reply that the Secretary of State saw no reason to interfere in the matters.

IT is an open secret that the appointment of an European tutor for the education of the young Maharaja of Sindia was made in utter disregard to the dying request of his Highness the late Maharaja. Mr. Bradlaugh, not satisfied with the vague and evasive reply of the Under-Secretary of State for India to his first question, asked again the following question:—

Whether the telegram of the Governor-General of India of the 13th of June, 1886, to the late Maharajah Sindia was a reply to the dying request of His Highness that his son should not be placed for instruction under a European tutor; and whether the Secretary of State would lay upon the table the complete text of the letter of the late Maharajah, referred to in the previous answer of the Under-Secretary and of any reply thereto.

Sir John Gorst gave the following reply:—

The character of the request of the late Maharajah Sindia is not correctly described in the question, but it was undoubtedly his wish in June 1886 that his sone then under 10 years of age, should be under Native, and not European tutors. This wish was for three years complied with, and the young Maharajah was left during that time under the charge of Native tutors only. He is now 13½ years of age, and in the judgment of the Government of India, his own interests and those of his people require that, while neither his religion nor caste will be in any way interfered with, he shall be under the charge of a British Officer. The Secretary of State does not think it in the interest of the public service to lay on the table either the letter or the reply.

We are unable to understand the logic of Sir John's argument. We will not comment upon it; but the following extract from the letter of a London correspondent will show what is thought of it in England:

The whole transaction is ineffably, and almost incredibly, mean. British Administrators, even in India, should be above such conduct. What Prince can trust a British Viceroy's promise henceforward?

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The Medical Profession of all countries now consider Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil as incomparably the most valuable remedy for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. No remedy so rapidly restores the exhausted strength, improves the nutritive functions, stops emaciation, checks the perspiration, quiets the cough and expectoration or produces a more marked and favourable influence on the local malady. Dr. Waudley, Physician to the Hereford Infirmary, writes:—"I can take Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil without any difficulty or dislike, and with as little inconvenience as water alone. Not only in my own case, but in many others I have seen it has caused an improvement of chest symptoms and an increase of weight, so soon and so lastingly, as to be quite remarkable. I believe Dr. de Jongh's Oil to be the most valuable remedy we possess for chronic and constitutional disease." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 210, High Holborn, London.

Correspondence.

ABKARI

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HINDOO PATRIOT."]

Sir,—Eleven months ago Mr. Samuel Smith, M. P. moved the following resolution in the House of commons :—

"That in the opinion of this House, the fiscal system of the Government of India leads to the establishment of spirit distilleries, liquor and opium shops in large numbers of places where till recently they never existed, in defiance of native opinion and the protests of the inhabitants, and that such increased facilities for drinking produce a steadily increasing consumption, and spread misery and ruin among the industrial classes of India calling for immediate action on the part of the Government of India with a view to their abatement."

It was resisted by the Government, whose spokesman was Sir John Gorst, and after a long debate it was carried by a majority of ten. This resolution was virtually a vote of censure by the House Commons on the excise administration of India.

The Goverment of India has prepared a reply to this censure which has been published in the "Gazette of India," March 1st, 1890. It is indeed a portentous decument. It occupies 400 pages of closely printed matter and statistical tables. I fear I am the only person in the United Kingdom likely to read it through.

The British public mostly take their information about India from the telegram which reaches us every Monday morning from the Calcutta correspondent of the "Times." I cannot pretend, in the limited space given by journalistic courtesy, to deal with this vast mass of printed matter; so I propose merely to make some reference to those points which the "Times" correspodent, one of the best informed men in all India, considered of sufficient importance for his comments, which appeared in the columns of the "Times" on Monday, March 10th, as follows :—

"MR. CAINE AND THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT

"Calcutta, Sunday.

"The Indian Government has published a reply to the strictures which the House of Commons, at the instance of Mr. Caine, M. P., and Mr. Samuel Smith M. P., passed on its excise administration last year. Immediately after the House passed its resolution, the supreme Government called upon the provincial Governments for full reports, and after they were received some six months were spent in disgesting and arranging them. The result is a most complete and crushing answer to the indictment. As the answer with the appendices covers nearly 400 printed pages, it is impossible now to do more than mention some few points. After alluding to serious difficulties which have to be met in establishing a system of excise in India, the Government go on to say :—

"'These difficulties are, we believe, greater than are met in any other country which is ruled on principles in accord with modern civilisation, and the complexity of the questions involved makes it difficult for those who have no practical experience of the working of the administration to appreciate the obstacles with which we have to contend. Under such circumstances it is a matter for regret that the statements made in the debate on the Indian excise system should, as they appear to us, have been inaccurate and misleading, and we feel it necessary to reply at some length to criticisms which have resulted in the condemnation as a whole of the many widely differing and complex excise systems in force in India.

"Several of Mr. Caine's statements are next discussed in detail, and their inaccuracy is exposed. For instance, with reference to his assertion that drinking has greatly increased in Bengal during the last few years, it is shown that he only offered evidence up to 1884, while it was not till the following year that the Bengal Government proceeded to carry out the recommendations of the Excise Commission, with the result that the issue of spirits from the central distilleries greatly decreased. Again, it is proved that he entirely misapprehended the statements made to him in conversation by an excise official at Bombay whom he quoted in the debate. On this the Government remark:—

"We do not charge Mr. Caine with intentional misrepresentation ; his mistake, no doubt, was made in ignorance ; but we would strongly urge that statements of this sort, made in Parliament when they cannot be contradicted at the time, should not be accepted as evidence sufficient to justify what was practically a vote of censure on the excise administration of the Government of India."

"A number of other misconceptions and mistakes are exposed in no less complete a manner. One incident is described as a striking illustration of the disadvantage at which the Indian Government is put when its policy is discussed in England. A similar remark might be made of nearly all Mr. Caine's and Mr. Smith's allegations, and no one reading the document can doubt the triumph of the Indian Government."

It is stated that the reply of the Indian Government is "a most complete and crushing answer to the indictment." I have not yet mastered the entire contents of the "Reply" of 400 pages, which appears to me rather plethoric than complete, but so far as I have been able to do so, I do not feel at all "crushed." Mr. Smith's indictment is a very simple one. It is that the Indian Government are establishing liquor shops in defiance of native opinion, that they are creating increased facilities for drinking, that the consumption is steadily increasing, and that the Government of India ought to take immediate action with a view to the abatement of drinking facilities and the reduction of consumption.

The "Reply" shows conclusively that the Government is at last roused to a sense of its duty, and it furnishes abundant evidence, in the abolition of the out-still system in Bengal, the taxing of the strong native beers, the admission for the first time of the principle of local option (clause 104), and in many other ways, that the censure of the House of Commons is almost the only means of awakening the conscience of the Indian Government.

The document is full of very shrewd knocks and thrusts at myself personally. They trouble me not at all, if there is in the "Reply" itself clear evidence that my attacks have had the desired effect. There is such evidence on every page of this huge official volume ; and I will not trouble you with any defence of myself, with the exception of one or two of those matters quoted by the "Times" correspondent. He says that the inaccuracy of several of my statements are exposed, that "it is proved that Mr. Caine entirely misapprehended statements made to him in conversation by an excise official at Bombay, whom he "quoted in debate."

The gentleman referred to is Mr. Lallubhai Gordhandas, a gentleman employed in the Excise department of Bombay. The "proof" lies solely in *his* statement of what occurred in a conversation, as against *my* statement. This gentleman has written a minute [Appendix A] from which I quote the first sentence :—

"One night, in October or November last, a friend of mine, by name Ratiram Durgaram, B.A., came to me at my house in Bombay, and said that Mr. Caine wished to see me and talk about Abkari matters."

I hear of Ratiram Durgaram for the first time. I never to my knowledge saw this supposed intermediary, or heard of Mr. Lallubhai Gordhandas until he called upon me himself.

The plain facts of this interview are as follows. Mr. L. Gordhandas called upon me at my hotel, and expressed a desire for an interview. He said nothing of Ratiram Durgaram. I took it for granted he came to see me in consequence of my having called on Mr. Pritchard, the Commissioner of Excise, who was from home, I think in Sind. At the outset of our interview I told Mr. L. Gordhandas that I should consider myself free to use the information he gave me in any way I thought fit, and I made notes from time to time. At the close of the interview I read my notes over to him, and he suggested one or two trivial alterations. I read them a second time, and he agreed with their general accuracy. I then proposed that I should write them carefully out, and post them to him in duplicate, he returning one copy altered as he thought fit, and signed by himself. This he flatly refused to do. He was nervous all through the conversation, and I doubt if his memory of what took place is very accurate. In his statement [Appendix A.] he says, "Mr. Caine was occasionally taking notes in the course of the conversation, but I did not see what he wrote, nor did he read his notes over to me. As I was leaving him, he said he was to start for Ahmedabad that night, and that he would send a copy of his notes to me for revision, if I had no objection. I said that I did not like to correspond with him, but would see him again, if he wished me to meet him, after his return to Bombay. Mr. Caine did not send me his notes, nor did I have any further meeting with him."

The statement which Mr. Lallubhai Gordhandas now publishes as his *recollection* of a conversation, eight months after it took place, differs absolutely and entirely from the careful notes I took at the time, and which he himself admits I offered to send to him in writing for revision, but which he refused to allow me to do. Yet on the strength of this "recollection" as against the most careful notes made at the time, the Government claim to have "*proved*" that I "entirely misunderstood" this shifty official.

What greater precautions could I have taken to secure an accurate impression of an important interview, *not sought by me at all*, but by a high official of the department I had come to India to attack? Had Mr. Gordhandas accepted my sensible and practical offer of sending him copies of my notes, this "misunderstanding" need never have taken place. It appears to me that his visit was more officious than official. One thing is absolutely certain, that it was inspired by himself alone. Mr. Mackenzie, the acting Commissioner, prefers Mr. Gordhandas' memory, eight months after the event, to what he is pleased to call "notes taken in a hurry" at the time.

This is a perfectly fair sample of scores of paragraphs in this voluminous report, couched in language more fitted for some peevish school-girl than for the able civil servants who govern India, in which the indictment against their excise policy has been "completely crushed." I could fill your whole issue if I were to reply to half of them.

The "Times" correspodent refers to another case in which my mistakes "have been exposed in a no less complete manner"—that of the liquor in Backergunj, quoted by me in debate. I admit frankly that the explanations given put a better construction on the incident than it appeared to me when it was given me by my informant, but it has no real bearing on the main issues. I only refer to it, because the Correspondent quotes a very remarkable sentence in the "Reply" "This incident is a striking illustration of the disadvantage at which the Government of India is placed when its policy is discussed in England." No one is more anxious than I am that this disadvantage should be removed. The only method by which this is possible is by the admission of the natives of India to representation in the legislative councils of their own country where "policy" could be discussed by those most interested in it, where the Government could be questioned, and where reforming legislation could be proposed by the reformers themselves. Until we have the common sense to do this, natives of India have no other course open to them for the redressing of their grievances, than to appeal to the few members of the House of Commons who know a little of India, and are for her people, to get them the justice they fail to secure from those nominees of Governors who alone have the power to alter and amend legislation and administration. But I must turn away from the passages of the "Reply" which deal with me personally, most of which can be quite as easily disposed of as those I have referred to.

The main interest in this great volume 400 pages does not consist in the discovery of my inaccuracies and inconsistencies, many of which I frankly admit. I fear they have been inevitable in the consideration of statistics and reports which called for such an apology as that contained in clause 56, which says :—

"Some difficulty is experienced in giving the rates of duty on spirit for different years *in a form suitable for comparison*, as there is no uniform rate for the whole province, and there have been frequent changes of system, the central distillery system and the outstill system frequently replacing one another."

Or again, in No. 4,692, clause 9 :—

"The figures on which Mr. Caine bases his arguments at page 8 of the report appear to have been derived from authentic sources, but their application by Mr. Caine shows that he has not fully apprehended the facts. He has omitted to notice that the figures apply to different areas and populations. *The statistics of consumption in rented districts are so untrustworthy* that the Board make it a rule never to base arguments upon them." How was I to know this ?

When the Departments of Excise write thus about their own published statistics the wonder is, not that I have been guilty of inaccuracies, but that I have been guilty of so few.

The main question for light, upon which I have eagerly looked throughout the 400 pages of the "Reply," appears to me to be whether or no the consumption of ardent spirits in India is, or is not, on the increase. The Government has always contended that it is not. All through this controversy I have, over and over again, said that it is practically impossible to come to any satisfactory conclusion, in the absence of statistical information, respecting the amount of liquor in gallons distilled year by year in districts. If the "Reply" had contained such information for the whole of India as that given, imperfectly enough, in the portion contributed by the Madras Presidency (No. 4,692, clause 9), it would have been worth the whole 400 pages put together, for practical purposes. I draw my own conclusions from this reticence on the part of the Government.

However, I will take such returns as the reply does contain, and it will be seen that in almost every case there is a steady increase in the consumption of ardent spirits.

Clause 29 contains a table giving the importations of foreign spirits for the last nineteen years. The first nine years give a total of 5,930,000 gallons, the

last nine years 8,598,009, or an increase of 45 per cent.

I have said before, and will say again, that, as far as I am able to judge, the administration of the Madras Presidency is the best of a bad lot. After cutting out of their calculations those "rented districts," whose statistics are considered untrustworthy, the Madras report says :—"Omitting them, the actual facts as to the consumption of recent years are shown in the subjoined statement, the summary of which is as follows :—

Gallons of proof spirits.

1882-3	1883-4	1884-5	1885-6
799,000	843,000	834,000	759,000

1886-7	1887-8	1888 9
890,000	1,065,000	1,095,000"

Showing an increase for the seven years of 295,000 gallons. But this return, as any one will see who will take the trouble to study it, is ridiculously imperfect, and I only quote it as an example of the case with which one may slip into error. If I were to base an argument upon it, I should by the "inaccuracies" of the Madras excise statistical table, be trapped into inaccuracies of my own, for which, in eleven months' time, I should again be "crushed" by another voluminous despatch. Clause 3 of the Madras minute, containing this table, speaks of this statement as "quite misleading." The only *complete* returns are for the last two years, and the tables are practically worthless for comparative purposes. The increase is accounted for in a truly wonderful set of foot notes which open up a perfect vista of maladministration.

For instance, in Vizagapatam, the consumption increased in 1886-87 from 9,590 gallons in the previous year to 26,479. This increase is stated to be due to "change of law enabling department to prevent smuggling from neighbouring *rented tracts*." A reader unacquainted with India will be surprised to learn that this smuggled liquor is all distilled in Government out-stills.

The district of Kurnool is only brought into the table in 1885 86, the foot-note explains "district formerly rented."

Altogether there are eleven distinct qualifications of the statistical table. Taking into account all these intricacies and qualifications, and *comparing only those tracts which have been continuously under the excise system*, we find during recent years a steady and alarming increase of consumption of ardent spirits in the Madras Presidency. Here is the return for the last four years :—

1885 6	1886 7	1887-8	1888-9
710,425	759,107	889,102	913,360

So that, getting down *at last* to districts about which there is, and can be, no controversy, we find that in the best administered province in India, Madras, the consumption of ardent spirits is increasing at the rate of 28½ per cent. in four years. I may add that the average rate of duty in 1885-6 was within a small decimal of that prevailing in 1889 90, and that I select these years as being free from all fiscal complications. I further select the year 1885-6 as a proper starting point for comparison, because in clause 17 of the minute of the Madras Government it says: "In Madras the Local Government may fairly claim to have successfully solved the problem of controlling the consumption of country spirits. The system now in force was introduced at the recommendation of a committee appointed by the Local Government in 1884." I await with curiousity to see whether any explanation will be forthcoming with regard to what I consider an unimpeachable proof of a steady increase in consumption.

In clause 38 there is a table shewing the total consumption of beer in India from 1877 to 1888. In 1877 the consumption was 8,779,000 gallons, and in 1888, 13,482,000 ; shewing a total increase in eleven years of no less than 55 per cent. The beer brewed in India last year was 5,382,000 gallons, at one penny per gallon of excise; this would produce £22,500. There are only eighteen breweries. Yet the report says "it was not worth while to incur the cost of collection."

Mr. T. D. Mackenzie, acting Commissioner of Abkary for Bombay, gives some figures disproving my statement that the consumption of licit liquor has increased 40 per cent. in that presidency from 1882 to 1886. He proves, clearly enough, that I am wrong in that estimate. But my conclusions are wrong in consequence of the way in which successive excise reports have muddled up their figures. Mr. Mackenzie says, in paragraph 12 of his minute: "In 1884-5 the total actual sales were 2,311,619 gallons, an *increase* of 467,283 gallons; but in that year the central distillery system was introduced into Kaira, responsible for 10,389 gallons, Bijapur [21,453 gallons], while by the improvement out-still system, introduced into Khandesh, it *learned for the first time* [why ?] that the consumption there had been 460,307 gallons, and similarly in Kanara 74,640." I admit my error; but I claim to be held excused, as I was dealing with reports which *learned for the first time* in 1884 5 that the consumption in an important district was no less than 460,000 gallons. By the defective system of statistical information prevalent in the Bombay Excise Department, by which the consumption in certain districts could not be arrived at, I unwittingly minimised the consumption in the first year of my tables.

Well, it is true that Mr. Mackenzie knocks the bottom out of my figures. He is only able to do so by the strange admission of the incapacity of his department to furnish a proper return on which to base any argument. But he has himself, in the "Reply," set up a fresh series of statistics, on which a sound argument can be based.

In paragraphs 12, 13, 14 we have the total actual sales, *at last*, for the whole presidency, for 1884-5, 1885-6 1886-7, complicated only with 16,839 gallons for some districts of the Panch Mahals, in which the central distillery system was introduced for the first time in 1886-7, and which I deduct from the total.

The actual sales in	1884-5	were	2,311,619	gals.
,, ,,	1885-6	,,	2.709,920	,,
,, ,,	1886-7	,,	2,821,684	,,

So that in these three years the consumption of spirits has increased 510,000 gallons, an increase of 22 per cent. Mr. Mackenzie demolishes me for saying that the consumption increased 40 per cent. in four years by figures which prove an increased consumption of 22 per cent, in three years. We have it established at any rate, now, that the consumption is increasing at a rate calculated to give the gravest alarm to every one who cares for the welfare of the Indian people. I strongly recommend to those interested in this controversy a careful perusal of Mr. Mackenzie's clauses 8 to 18.

In two appendices, D and E, attached to this minute, Mr. Mabkenzie furnishes particulars of the number of gallons of spirits imported and of country spirits sold in the town and Island of Bombay for eleven years, from 1878,88. These fluctuate of course, but I will for brevity's sake compare the first five years with the last:—

	1878-1882	1884-8
Total imported spirits	1,220, 480	1,653, 479
,, Country spirits	2,987, 250	3,112,730
Total	4,207,730	4,766,209

an increase of 14 per cent

These, so far as I can discover in a first perusal of this gigantic dispatch, are the only tables giving any information in detail of gallonage, with regard to consumption of ardent spirits. In my speeches on this subject I have had to construct my own tables with great labour from the different Abkari reports. I have already shown what a difficult task this is, and not being a senior wrangler I may readily have blundered. But here, at last, are one or two Government returns, that, for once, appear simple of comprehension, and they entirely maintain the conclusions I have arrived at previously by my own researches, viz, that the consumption of ardent spirits is steadily increasing all over India; that it is the inevitable consequence of an excise system based upon liquor farming; and that nothing but some radical change will prevent India becoming a spirt-drinking nation in the course of three or four decades.

Expede Herculem ! If the increase in consumption in Madras is 28½ per cent. in four years, and in Bombay 22 per cent in three years, and further, if these are the two provinces where the excise laws are best administered, what is the increase likely to have been in Bengal, the N. W. Provinces, Burmah, and all the rest of British India, where the pernicious out-still system, whose abolition has now been secured by our agitation, has been nearly universal ?

I could without difficulty stretch my reply to as great a length as the dreary 400 pages through which I am compelled to wade. I will, however, close by asking the India Office a question. *Will they ask the House of Commons to reverse its vote of censure ?* With regard to the censures of myself, which the "Reply" contains in almost every one of its 400 pages, neither I nor anybody else will be likely to care a brass farthing while the vote of Parliament stands *unreversed.*

Yours faithfully,
W. S. CAINE.

LONDON,
March 28th, 1890.

FROM THE *UNKNOWN WORLD.*
THE ADVICE OF A VISION AND HOW IT RESULTED.

(*Leicester Midland Free Press.*)

80, Oxendon Street, Leicester,
12th March, 1890.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—The statement which I am sending you may appear strange, but it is a true one, and I am ready at all times to verify it, either by answering inquiries by letter or by a personal interview.

Some four years ago, while on a visit to my sister, I contracted a severe cold, which resulted in congestion of the lungs, accompanied by asthma. For a period of two years I experienced sufferings which I am unable to describe, being in constant pain, and never knowing what it was to get a perfect night's rest. I was unable to lie down at night, and had to take what little sleep I could get bolstered up in a chair, often awaking with that terrible feeling of suffocation which all who are afflicted with this dread disease know so well.

I was prevailed upon to seek medical advice, and called in a doctor of this town, who pronounced my case to be Chronic Asthma, and that he considered it to be incurable. Afterwards I called in another doctor, who prescribed medicine for me, and diagnosed my case as Incipient Consumption, which eventually would terminate fatally. I became a little better, which I attribute to the use of inhalation, but the relief was only temporary, and I gradually grew worse from day to day. I then had treatment from two other medical gentlemen of Leicester, who said that, in addition to Asthma, I also had Bronchitis, which could not be cured.

At this time I became so low that my friends despaired of my life, and prevailed on my going to Stockport, in order that I might have the advice and treatment of a specialist I was under treatment for a period of nine weeks. I then came home to Leicester, feeling better than when I went away, but in about five weeks I began to feel that I was far from being on the road to recovery, as one day, while sitting in my arm-chair, I felt a peculiar sense of oppression about the region of the heart, as if I were about to suffocate, being unable to breathe. I again went to Stockport, submitted to an operation, and again underwent much suffering. I returned to Leicester, and continued the specialist's treatment, using his medicines, &c, as directed, and at the same time keeping him advised as to my condition.

I found that the relief was only of a temporay nature, and I had to return to Stockport. This time I did not experience the desired relief,as I had become so debilitated from all I had gone through that my system seemed to be completely broken down. I went into the country with the hope that change of air would help me to recuperate, but in less than a week my husband was sent for to bring me home to die.

It was at this time, while waiting for death, and sitting within the dark shadow, that the circumstance which led to my final recovery occurred.

I had passed through a day of unrest, and could get no relief from my severe pains. It was only with the greatest difficulty I could prevail on myself to remain in bed, as the thoughts of my little family being left bereaved nearly drove me wild.

Towards night I became gradually more resigned to my fate, and gave my case in the Lord's hands, telling Him that as I had done all things that I knew in order to regain my health, and that as they had failed, would He point out the way to heath if one remained, and if not would He break the tie gently and take me to Himself.

After this I fell asleep, and I seemed to realise that some one was speaking to me, as I heard a voice saying to me,—"Take Warner's 'Safe' Cure."

On this I again heard the voice repeating the same words.

I said, "Warner's 'Safe' Cure!"

And again the voice repeated the advice, adding, "Take it unsparingly and ungrudgingly."

I would state that at this time I was wide awake, and seemed to see a shadow of some one in the room. I awoke my husband and told him what I had seen and heard, and he asked me if any person had previously advised me to use the medicine. I assured him I had not even heard of it.

The next morning I procured a bottle as soon as possible, and took it as directed. I experienced relief from the very first dose, and continued taking it until I had used up two bottles. I was soon able to leave my bed and do my household work. My appetite gradually grew better, and I could relish my food, which before taking the "Safe" Cure seemed hateful to me. I found that on retiring at night my rest was unbroken; my cough, which used to be so distressing has left me, and I no longer feel that terrible sense

of being suffocated, which had troubled me so long. My case is a wonderful one, and is the talk of all my friends, who one and all were sure that I should never be as well as I am to-day, and I can thank God that I followed the advice given me from the unknown world to take Warner's "Safe" Cure—Gratefully,

(Signed) ELIZA CARTER,

The remedy which cured Mrs. Carter, Warner's "SAFE" Cure, can be had of all Chemists and at the Bazaars, or of H. Ballantine and Sons Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras. Price 1's. 6d., 4s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. according to size of bottle.

Extract.

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

LORD DUFFERIN'S MINUTE.

FRIDAY, 28TH MARCH.

MR. BRADLAUGH asked the Under-Secretary for India whether he would lay upon the table the whole of the Minute of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava as Viceroy and Governor-General of India, dated Nov. 6, 1888, portions of which Minute have been already presented to Parliament.

Mr. W. H. Smith:—No, Sir, the Secretary of State must decline, in view of the confidential nature of this comminucation.

Mr. Bradlaugh asked whether the right hon gentleman was aware that the whole of this Minute had been printed in India and therefore the House would be placed in an unfortunate position in the discussion of the Indian Councils Bill.

Mr. W. H. Smith: It is possible, as the hon member states, that a serious breach of confidence has been committed by public servants in India, but that would not justify me in placing the paper before the House.

THE CAMBRIDGE MISSION TO DELHI

31ST MARCH.

Mr. Bradlaugh asked the Under-Secretary for India whether his attention had been drawn to a letter of the Bishop designate of Durham, published in the *Times* of March 26, respecting the Cambridge Mission to Delhi, in which it was stated that this work was undertaken at the suggestion of the Indian Government, who have given the site; and whether this statement was accurate; and if so, whether this was a departure from the traditional British policy in India of strict neutrality in religious matters.

Sir J. Gorst:—The work referred to by the Bishop-designate of Durham is St. Stephen's College, Delhi, an educational establishment of the Cambridge Mission. It has always been the practice of the Government of India to make grants in aid to all institutions calculated to promote the education of the pepole, and this practice has not been found to interfere with the religious freedom which the British Government guarantees.

THE MAHARAJAH SCINDIA.

Mr. Bradlaugh asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether the telegram of the Governor-General of India of June 19, 1886, to the late Maharajah Scindia was in reply to the dying request of His Highness that his son should not be placed for instruction under a European tutor and whether the Secretary of State would lay upon the table the complete text of the letter of the late Maharajah referred to in the previous answer of the Under-Secretary and of any reply thereto.

Sir J. Gorst The character of the request of the late Maharajah Scindia is not correctly described in the question; but it was undoubtedly his wish in June, 1886, that his son, then under ten years of age, should be under Native and not European tutors. This wish was for three years complied with, and the young Maharajah was left during that time under the charge of Native tutors only. He is now thirteen and a half years of age, and, in the judgment of the Government of India, his own interests and those of his people require that, while neither his religion nor caste will be in any way interfered with, he shall be under the charge of a British Officer. The Secretary of State does not think it in the interests of the public service to lay on the table either the letter or the reply.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a Missionary in old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions. Bloomsbury Square, London, W. C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper, 10.

RUSSIA AND INDIA.

A LETTER from St. Petersburg states:—"A very ably-written review of Sir Charles Dilke's 'Problems of Greater Britain,' or rather of that portion of it which treats of the defences of the Indian Empire, has appeared in the *Novoe Vremya*, the organ of Russian fire-eaters and Pan-Russians of a Chauvinist type. The author is, apparently, a competent judge of the question he is writing about, and the moderation of his tone is a fair guarantee of the solidarity of his ideas with the views that underlie the policy of the Russian Government. The most curious passage in the article is the comparison he draws between the opinions expressed by Sir Charles Dilke and the course to be adopted endorsed by Lord Randolph Churchill after his triumphant return from St. Petersburg and Muscow. After discussing all the author's theses as to Russia's *role* in Central Asia, the importance of keeping her out of Herat and Afghanistan, the inefficiency of the Indian Army, &c. the writer sums up as follows:—

No matter what lines of defence England may raise, no matter what number of troops she may concentrate on her Indian frontier, ultimate success is certain to rest with Russia. The combined triumphs of England and China on the side of the Pacific could not make up for defeat on the Indus which even on the author's own showing, would prove fatal to English supremacy.

Relying upon Russia's humiliation by the European Powers, English statesmen have brought things to such a pass that the two-headed eagle is now flying over Panjdeh. Yet a little while and by the storm of Herat we shall put a pistol to the heart of England's international position. Englishmen will then have to change their tactics; they will hasten to take Candahar and Jellalabad, which, according to Sir Charles Dilke, they have long ago resolved upon doing. In the conviction that our Central Asian frontier line is defined and fixed, England sees a guarantee that it is immovable and a sure pledge of India's safety. They are convinced—Sir Charles Dilke's book contains the proof of this—that under the conditions, actually prevailing we are not in a position to undertake a campaign against India, and this belief gives them courage to join alliances inimical to Russia and to act openly against us in Bulgaria.

It is permitted to affirm that England's love of peace is proportional to our proximity to her Indian frontier and to the force with which we press against it. . . . The Vistula, the Bosphorus, and Herat are the three appices of the Russian triangle which reciprocally act and re-act upon each other. Englishmen continue stubbornly the unequal struggle simply because they are awaiting the result of the strife at the two points opposite to Herat. If Russia triumphs, their policy will undergo a radical change; they will then unite their railways with ours, and endeavour by every means in their power to stengthen their friendship with Russia, in whom they will recognise the surest basis of their own position."

Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*April* 23, 1889.

GENERAL,—The following officers are appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4, Act VII (B C) of 1880, in the districts mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr H C Streatfield, Covenanted Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, Babu Mohendra Chunder Mozoomder, Deputy Collector, Dacca, Mr E M Reily, Deputy Collector, Purneah.

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Mr C J Stevenson-Moore, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rampore Hat, Beerbhoom, is transferred to the district of Jessore, and is posted to the Jhenidah subdivision of that district.

Mr A G Chuckerbutty, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, is allowed furlough, on medical certificate, for two years, under article 340 (*a*) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr K G Gupta, Officiating Junior Secretary, Board of Revenue, is allowed leave for three days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 4th ultimo.

Mr J Tweedie, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Patna, is confirmed in that appointment.

Mr J G Charles, Officiating District and Sessions, Judge, Shahabad, is confirmed in that appointment.

Mr J B Worgan, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Dinagepore, is confirmed in that appointment.

Mr B L Gupta, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Cuttack, is confirmed in that appointment.

Mr H Beveridge, Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs and Hooghly, on leave, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs, during the absence, on leave, of Mr C B Garrett, or until further orders.

The following officers reported their departure from India on leave on the dates mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr J Boxwell, c s, 1st April 1890, Mr A L Clay, c s, 3rd April 1890, Mr B G Geidt, c s, 4th April 1890.

Mr C Brownfield, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the district of Lohardugga, in the Chota Nagpore Division.

Mr A G Chuckerbutty, c s, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on the 17th instant.

Mr H J McIntosh, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sectamurhee, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr E V Levinge, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is transferred to Mozufferpore, and is appointed to have charge of the Sectamurhee sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr H J McIntosh, or until further orders.

Mr W T Woods, Lecturer on Dentistry, Medical College, Calcutta, is allowed leave for two hundred and forty-four days, under article 366 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr G G Ranger is appointed to be Lecturer on Dentistry in the Medical College, Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of Mr W T Woods, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he assumes charge of his duties.

Babu Bunkim Chandra Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 31st ultimo.

Mr T L L Jenkins, c s, has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of six months' extraordinary leave without pay.

The services of Mr H Lee, c s, were placed at the disposal of the Financial Department of this Government from the 18th March to the 15th April 1890, both days inclusive.

Moulvie Fyzoollah Khan, Sub-Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is allowed leave for two months and ten days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 15th proximo.

Mr J Whitmore, District and Sessions Judge, Beerbhoom, is promoted to the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, *vice* Mr F H McLaughlin, retired.

Mr J Scobell Armstrong, Collector of Customs, Calcutta, is promoted to the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr E H Ruddock, retired.

Mr A C Tute, Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack, on furlough, is promoted to the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr J Scobell Armstrong.

Mr G A Grierson, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on furlough, is appointed to be a Magistrate and Collector of the third grade, with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr A C Tute.

Mr E B Harris, substantive *pro tempore* Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the first grade, is confirmed in that grade, with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr G A Grierson, but will continue to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of Jessore.

Mr W C Macpherson, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is promoted substantively *pro tempore* to the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr E B Harris, but will continue on his present deputation until further orders.

Mr H Holmwood, substantive *pro tempore* Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the second grade, is confirmed in that grade with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr E B Harris, but will continue to act, until further orders, as Inspector-General of Registration.

Mr T Inglis, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, on furlough, is appointed substantively *pro tempore* to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the second grade, with effect from the 11th April 1890, *vice* Mr H Holmwood.

JUDICIAL,—Babu Ananda Kumar Sarbadhikari, Officiating Additional Sub-ordinate Judge, Dacca, is allowed leave for fifty days, under article 306 (*b*) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Khetter Prosad Mookerjee, Munsif of Basirhat, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Additional Subordinate Judge in the district of Dacca, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Ananda Kumar Sarbadhikari, or until further orders.

Babu Bhagabati Charan Mitra, MA, BL, is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, to be ordinarily stationed at Basirhat, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Khetter-Prosad Mookerjee, or until further orders.

Babu Brojo Behary Shome, Additional Munsif of Sealdah, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge and Small Cause Court Judge of Pubna, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Rajendra Coomar Bose, or until further orders.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DERBY SWEEP 1890.—Tickets Rs. 10 each. To be obtained from Capt. Stephens, Rangoon. To close on 31st May 1890. 289

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258

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT THE FIFTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Registered Offices of the Company, Albert Building, on WEDNESDAY, the 30th April 1890, at 3 P. M.

(1) To receive Directors' and Auditors' Reports for year ending 31st December 1889.

(2) To elect a Director and Auditors.

(3) To declare a Dividend.

(4) To submit Consulting Actuary's Valuation Report on the Assets and Liabilities of the Company, to 31st December 1888.

(5) To transact any other Business which may be brought before the Meeting by the Chairman.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F. I. A.,

Manager and Actuary.

ALBERT BUILDING,
Bombay, 31st March 1890. 279

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HALF CHRONOMETER WATCHES.

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The "Excelsior" has: a ¾ plate keyless movement with straight line lever escapement; 15 ruby jewels, tempered isochronal hair spring with safety curb to prevent derangement by rough wear; a real expansion chronometer balance, compensated to heat and cold and adjusted to all positions. The case, that important part of which depends the protection of the movement, is double strong and fits so as to exclude damp and dust. Price in sterling silver case.

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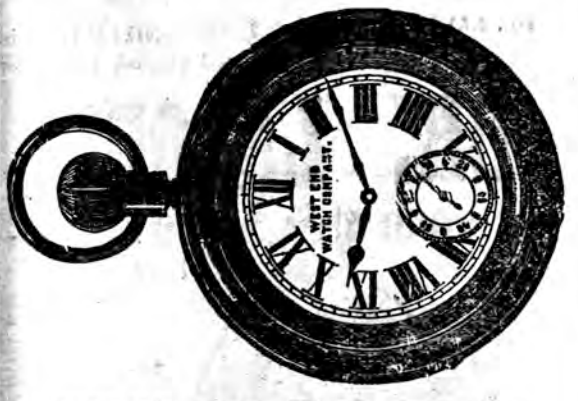

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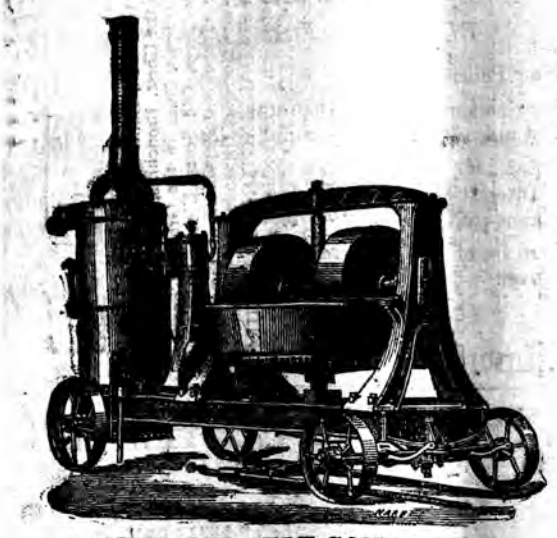

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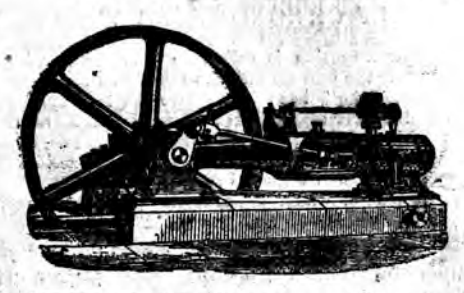

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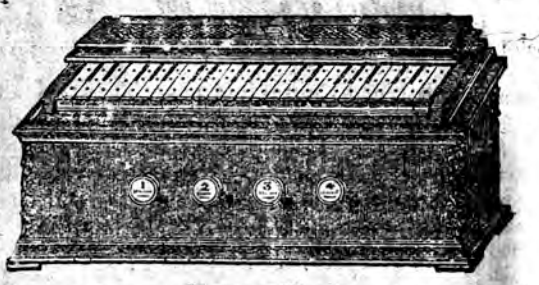

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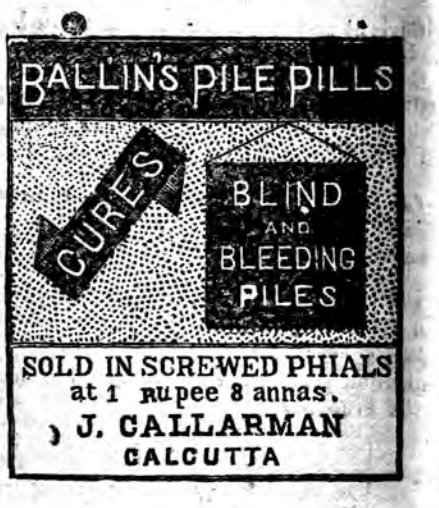

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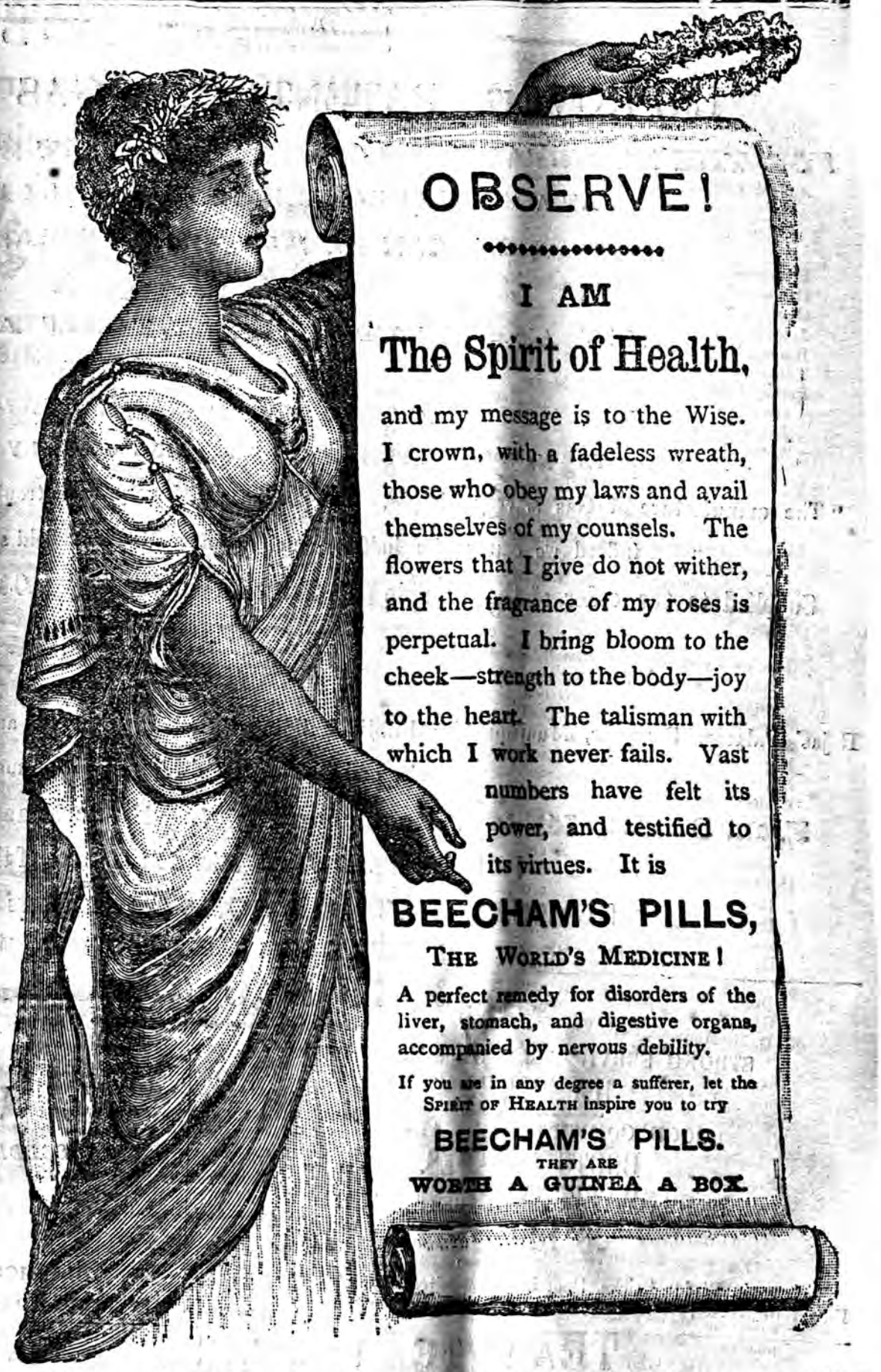
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